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Paving the information highway for 60 years

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Sleazy sprawl

Report alleges conflicts of interest, backroom dealings at Bear Mountain

Melanie Tromp

A new report claims Langford's ambitious Bear Mountain development blurs the line between public and private interests, perpetuates urban sprawl and paves the way for the controversial Spencer Road interchange at a rapid pace.

The report, authored by two-time Victoria mayoral candidate Ben Isitt, is the product of 14 months of digging through Langford city council documents, bylaws and e-mails. The report provides a historical background on land exchanges and other decisions that made Bear Mountain and the pending interchange possible.

Isitt's report was funded by West Coast Environmental Law and was mandated to inform potential legal action against both the developer and the City of Langford by various coalitions of Langford residents.

"Bear Mountain was made possible by local and provincial government decisions," said Isitt, who noted one-third of the developers' property for Bear Mountain came from former Crown land. "You have this small group of developers and investors who shape land use in B.C. and they roll over local governments and have a strong influence with the provincial government. I think this is the driving engine behind urban sprawl, and 99 per cent of the population has been cut out of [Langford's] decisions."

Isitt's report details 10 years of land transfers, backroom deals, land rezoning and bylaw changes that have resulted in the accelerated growth of a Whistler-esque resort and subdivision with a $2.5-billion potential value on current green space.

See Langford councillors, p. 2

PETER ROCKWELL PHOTO

A protester descends from a sky-high tent at the Bear Mountain tree sit.

Tree sitters protest 'limitless' urban sprawl

Noah Ross

In the middle of a forest, tree sitters are preventing crews from constructing the Bear Mountain interchange, which would link the development to Leigh Road, the Trans-Canada Highway and Langford's big box stores. The Martlet asked Lucho, a tree sitter, for his views on the protest.

Martlet: Why are you here?

L: The Bear Mountain interchange is a symptom of an entire economy gone out of control, an economy that is based on limitless extraction and expansion. By taking action here we are sending a direct message to the government and the general public that limitless sprawl will be met by opposition in our community of southern Vancouver Island.

M: It sounds like you see this sit as part of a broader movement.

L: We are here to block the road but there are larger issues that the road signifies that are bigger than this piece of forest.

M: What kind of issues?

L: General opposition to car culture, the petroleum economy, irresponsible urban planning leading to sprawl, and loss of habitat for animals.

M: Why have you chosen this piece of forest as a place to take a stand?

L: At this point in our history we have to intelligently build our communities and Bear Mountain is development in its ugliest manifestation. They've refused to integrate into a public planning process and are essentially demanding that the City of Langford and the province of British Columbia build them a private highway.

M: How is the tree sit able to get the resources needed to support so many people's needs?

L: We have lots of support from the community. People come out here and bring food, rope — everything you see out here pretty much. People should come out and see how it works.

M: Has there been much trouble with the police?

L: The Langford bylaw officers have visited a few times to check on bylaw infractions but we've never been fined. The RCMP have come to gather information and take pictures a few times. In December we stopped a survey crew from mapping out where the interchange will go through. Work on the interchange was slated to start in December so we're definitely delaying the process.

New building brings hope for new mentality

Nathan Lowther

Students returned from holidays to find UVic's landscape altered as part of a plan to change mindsets.

The trees between the Clearihue and Cornett buildings were removed in preparation for the construction of the First People's House. The state-of-the-art facility is meant to be an academic and cultural hub for indigenous students, but that doesn't mean it will be exclusive.

"We want everyone to feel welcome," said Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi, director of UVic's office of indigenous affairs. "Or it won't serve its purpose of bridging cultures and bringing people together."

The $7-million structure was designed by aboriginal architect Alfred Waugh, who was inspired by traditional Coast and Strait Salish structures. Construction is scheduled to start on April 9. The building will contain the Native Students Union office, kitchen facilities, lecture room, computer lab and a large ceremony room, as well as other rooms.

But while the First People's House will be a place of celebration, it's currently the cause of some anxiety among aboriginal students.

"There's almost a sense of embarrassment," said Ami Brousseau, administrative councillor at the Native Students Union. "There's a culture of keeping your head down [within the indigenous community]. And you add the fact that all the trees have been cut down in the middle of campus."

But Hunt-Jinnouchi disagreed, saying the First People's House has been "a long time coming."

"What it represents makes it easier to ingest the removing of some trees," she said.

It also represents the university putting resources into creating a positive learning environment for indigenous students.

"Aboriginal students tend to flourish when there is a place for them to come together, but even more so when they have the support of the community," said Hunt-Jinnouchi.

That support was put into action last year, when UVic President David Turpin and the university's board of governors finally committed to building the First People's House, first suggested in 1996.

Jim Anglin, UVic's vice president academic and provost, said, "Personally speaking, it's the most exciting initiative I've been involved with."

The Native Students Union shares that excitement, despite the missing trees. A key purpose of the union is to throw "shared celebrations" for Aboriginal students and their families. The House will have a room specifically for such gatherings.

See First People's House, p. 2

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Langford councillors targeted in report

Bear Mountain's growth has led to traffic congestion on Millstream Road, creating a push starting last February for another access point from the Trans-Canada Highway — the Spencer Road interchange.

Citizen concern over the imminent highway is twofold according to Isitt, who said that Langford residents are anxious about both the financial risk of the $25-million Langford borrowed to build the interchange and the environmental risks of paving over a delicate local ecosystem and archaeological site.

On Jan. 12, a coalition of roughly 40 residents launched a 30-day door-to-door canvassing campaign to gather 2,000 signatures on a petition that rejects Langford's decision to borrow money to fund the interchange. The petition also protests Langford city council declaring the interchange site a Local Service Area. That designation exempts the loan and land use decisions from the usual public approval process, including a possible referendum.

"City council intends to proceed with their plans without regard to this petition," said Steven Hurdle, the Langford resident who organized the petition drive. "Even if 95 per cent of [residents] sign, they will press ahead."

Isitt has drawn a direct connection between development and the interchange, but Langford Mayor Stew Young recently denied this allegation to the Goldstream Gazette.

"The interchange is supported by and required by the residents of Langford and will benefit the region," Young told the Gazette. "If it isn't done, traffic tie-ups will cause more damage to the environment because you'll have cars idling by fish-bearing streams. It's also good for the economy and improving our community, but I guess you don't have a sense of that when you live in a tree for two years."

Isitt highlights a potential conflict of interest with Langford city councillor John Goudy. The report charges Goudy directly benefited from the sale of his controversially rezoned land to the project's developers in 2001 to construct the original Bear Mountain Parkway.

The report also questions links between Langford councillor Denise Blackwell's job as administrative assistant at the archeology branch of the B.C. Ministry of Tourism, Sports and the Arts and her roles on Langford city council and the Capital Regional District board. Despite a possible conflict of interest, Blackwell voted in favour of the excavation of the Skirt Mountain cave for archaeological research in November 2006 and also voted in favour of Bear Mountain development permits.

Goudy, Blackwell and the communications department at the B.C. Ministry of Tourism, Sports and the Arts all declined to comment on these allegations, pending a thorough reading of the report.

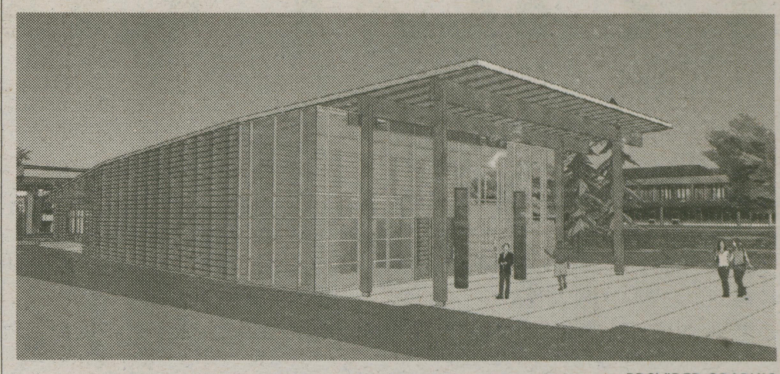
Many important decisions that allowed the Bear Mountain development were during the summer, which Isitt finds to be a "notable" aspect of Langford's political process, as citizens are more likely to be away or occupied with more "leisurely pursuits" during the summer months. The Mayor and council continued this pattern by voting on the $25-million loan needed from the Municipal Finance Authority on Dec. 27, directly between Christmas and New Year's, although the meeting minutes have yet to be ratified.

"This meeting was not promoted to the public through the usual channels, save for a poster put up in front of city hall," said Hurdle. "The [proposed] bylaws were only supposed to go through a first reading, but instead they went through a first, second, third and succession."

"The City of Langford and various other government agents rolled out the red carpet [for the developers]," said Isitt. "Bear Mountain would have been impossible without such a compliant local government and complacent public officials."

Langford city council and Bear Mountain developers had not released a statement regarding Isitt's report by press time.

Continued from p. 1



PROVIDED GRAPHIC

An artist's rendering shows the finished First People's House.

First People's House to be front and centre

"The key is being able to bring family," said Brousseau. "Many students are away from rural communities for the first time and that's very rough on them."

The goal of the new building is to make it easier for indigenous students to thrive in the university setting, Anglin said.

"The house will strengthen the connection to their own community and to academics," he said, adding the house's central location on campus is symbolic.

Is Brousseau concerned that a space dedicated to indigenous peoples will create an "us and them" mentality?

"It already exists," said Brousseau. "It's an ongoing problem for all indigenous students — for all indigenous people."

Hunt-Jinnouchi hopes changing that mentality will be one of the house's lasting legacies.

Joseph agreed that the house will change the relationship between indigenous and non-indigenous students on campus.

"It's going to make it completely unavoidable for the student body at large to ignore the fact that there are indigenous students on campus," he said. "And it's also going to give indigenous students a physical space to rally around."

Hunt-Jinnouchi said the First People's House shows UVic is working hard to be more inclusive for Aboriginal students. She points to the Aboriginal student population going from 75 to 629 over the past five years as proof the work is paying off.

NEWS BRIEF

Lawyers dance in hammer pants

Everybody dance now!

UVic law students danced up a storm and donated $2,000 to the Victoria Women's Transition House at the annual Law Games.

Dressed in shiny gold parachute pants and black hot pants, a group of UVic lawyers danced to a mega-mix of "Ice Ice Baby" and "Everybody Dance Now." The Law Games were hosted at the University of Montreal. The 51-law-student delegation competed in mock trials, sporting events and, of course, the dance competition. Students from 18 of Canada's 20 law schools competed.

UVic picked up three of the four major awards, including the Spirit Cup for school enthusiasm. UVic law students made the semifinals in six of 10 sporting events, and Chris Funt and Mike Doris won the moot court competition. For a video of the dance, visit www.martlet.ca.

- Steve Carey

This week in Martlet history

Stories from the Martlet archives

Jan. 16, 1992 — UVic's cafeterias sell leftover food to local farmers to feed pigs and goats. Three farmers came to UVic regularly to pick up food waste at two cents per litre. Island Products also purchased the cafeteria's grease for use in soap.

"It's better to recycle [the food] or reuse it in some way," said the manager of UVic food services. "I would even give it to them for nothing."

Jan. 21, 1988 — The university mourned two student rowers who died after a surprise storm at Elk Lake on Jan. 15.

When their boats took on too much water, 20 junior varsity rowers were forced to swim. Two rowers made it to shore; the coach found nine and loaded them into her boat before it sank 15 metres from shore. Saanich firefighters rescued eight more. One student drowned. Another died in hospital of hypothermia.

The university held a memorial service, flew flags at half mast, set up a scholarships in honour of the deceased, and had a two minute silence during classes.

Jan. 22, 1981 — A dance Jan. 10 in the Cadboro Commons building received a bomb threat.

UVic's manager of traffic and security speculated that two students who were refused entry because they arrived late to the dance may have called in the threat.

Police evacuated 450 people. Students were allowed to return after a 30-minute search didn't find a bomb.

Harmless nudity

New club looks to reduce health risks of partying

Nathan Lowther

NATHAN LOWTHER PHOTO

Emily Beinhauer of the Harm Less club used her body as a canvas to display the health problems the club is fighting through harm reduction.

Emily Beinhauer exposed her breasts to increase exposure for her club.

"It's amazing what some tits will get you," the biology student said after being noticed by the Martlet.

Beinhauer is a member of Harm Less, a new club on campus started by a group of students who volunteer at AIDS Vancouver Island, the harm reduction site that also operates the Victoria needle exchange, Street Outreach Services. The club is still taking shape, but the overall agenda is to increase discussion regarding harm reduction as a valid social philosophy.

"We recognize that people put themselves at risk, that people will use drugs, or use intravenous needles, or have sex, or party," Beinhauer said. "They may or they may not, but if they do the best thing that we can do is not get pissed off at them for it ... [but] give them the tools to make it easier and safer."

And that is where the body paint comes in. Beinhauer had one side of her body painted to show some of the harms she hopes to reduce, including a blackened lung and track marks on her arm. The other side was painted to represent a healthy, cared-for body.

"It was an artsy way to draw attention, to say, 'Hey, look, harm reduction is OK,' " said Beinhauer.

Harm Less is also trying bring attention to AIDS Vancouver Island's services and programs.

"We hope to eventually educate the campus as well," said Beinhauer. "Students need to learn how to not hurt themselves when they party."

She said she hopes the club will be able to work with others to achieve common goals. Religious clubs, health care clubs, and caring humanities clubs could work well with Harm Less, Beinhauer said.

Other clubs won't need to be concerned that Beinhauer will show up to meetings without a shirt on.

"The point of being topless was to showcase how important the body is," explained Beinhauer. "So I thought by standing there with body paint on topless, it would be like, 'Look, this is your body. You only get one, don't fuck it up.' "

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DAVID KARP PHOTO

A corner store in UVic's Cadboro Commons building has a section dedicated to students with celiac disease.

Students cope with celiac disease

David Karp

(CUP) — Lindsay O'Grady isn't able to enjoy a beer with friends. When she was 14, the UBC student was diagnosed with celiac disease.

Celiac disease causes gluten — a type of protein found in most grains — to harm the part of the small intestine that absorbs nutrients.

"It's a lifestyle change," said O'Grady. "When you go travelling — I was in Italy — you can't eat. You can eat salad."

People with celiac disease aren't able to properly digest food unless they stop eating gluten. Diagnosis is through a simple biopsy or a blood test. But because symptoms — including diarrhea, fatigue and weight loss — are similar to indigestion, it's often misdiagnosed.

"More often than not, doctors will try a number of things before they hone in," said Jim McCarthy, executive director of the Canadian Celiac Association. One in 133 Canadians has the disease, he said, but only five to seven per cent of those people are ever diagnosed. People with the disease may also develop anemia, osteoporosis and diabetes.

"It has been known to be related to miscarriages [and] reduced fertility," said McCarthy.

In O'Grady's case, her father had the disease. Often, there's a trigger that exacerbates symptoms.

"I was working at a pizza restaurant so I was around a lot of flour. I started getting really sick and dropping weight really fast," she said.

Ben McNamee started noticing symptoms shortly after starting grad studies at Simon Fraser.

"You don't seem to have any problems at all, and then one day you're told you can never have a piece of bread again," he said.

McNamee stopped eating gluten when he was diagnosed.

"As soon as you stop eating gluten, then the intestine starts repairing itself, and that's how the symptoms disappear," he explained.

Still, grocery shopping is more difficult for students with the disease.

"You have to be vigilant," said McNamee. "You have to read labels on everything and if there's somehow a label that you're not sure about [you have to] call the company. You've got to put a lot of time in."

That's not the case in Australia, New Zealand and European Union, where the law requires products to say if they contain gluten on their label. No such law exists in Canada.

Gluten-free groceries are pricey, a burden for students on a budget.

"A loaf of bread is $10," said O'Grady. "It really sucks."

Luckily, university cafeterias are starting to help. Heather Seymour, UVic's food production co-ordinator, has been accommodating since she was first approached by a student with the disease three years ago.

UVic only has four known residents with celiac disease and continues to deal with the issue on a case-by-case basis.

"[Originally,] I had to go down to Planet Organic [a local specialty grocer] to buy things on my own purchasing card," Seymour said.

Now, students with the disease visit Seymour's office to review menus and request accommodations, such as entrées prepared without sauce.

"We can accommodate, but we're still very primitive in how we do it," Seymour said. "I'm learning more as we go along."

O'Grady lives in cluster housing at the University of British Columbia so she can control what she eats.

"I have my own toaster — a gluten-free toaster. And I have some things that just can't have gluten in them," she said.

And life goes on.

"It's really not the end of the world," said O'Grady. "There's a lot of support and a lot of people that have celiac. You can make it work."

AHMED MUMENI FILE PHOTO

Founders of mPulse (left to right) Rian Bowden, Lewis Sobotkiewicz and Hongge Ren. The company is offering $2,000 in a programming contest.

UVic businesses power along

Steve Carey

A UVic tech startup is currently offering $2,000 in prizes in a coding and design competition.

"We've used a character from the Simpsons [as a model] – Joe Joey Joe Jeremiah Shabadu – he's a trainspotter in London and he watches for secret agents on trains," said Rian Bowden, CEO of mPulse. "He's trained to identify them by patterns, the types of secret agents he sees on certain lines."

Just as Shabadu uses patterns to spot secret agents, mPulse needs a programmer who can spot (and predict) the patterns within a given string of characters and break it down into usable information.

The mPulse team is readying their core technology, which organizes and indexes podcasts, and makes virtual mix-tapes based on users' listening habits. If all goes well, it will launch at the end of March.

Contests aren't new for mPulse – the company won gold (and $15,500) at the Innovation Development Corporation (IDC) Challenge in September. The company's coding competition, which is on now, has a top prize of $1,500 for best programming solution and $500 for best information display design.

"Hopefully we'll attract some people who want to work for a small company, who are students and are just really keen," said Bowden. "We would love to have some web design or art students in there; there's $500 available for someone who designs the best concept for displaying this information."

Former mPulse CFO Hongge Ren came up with the idea for a coding competition. Ren recently left mPulse on good terms to take a job with Maple Leaf Educational Systems in Dailan, China.

mPulse is getting recognition — the company was accepted into the Enterprize (CORRECT) business plan competition, the largest business plan contest in Canada, which takes place Jan. 19 and 20.

"It's a regional competition, so there's over a hundred people who entered and we're in the top ten. That's great motivation for us," said Bowden.

Suit makers expanding fast

Indochino CEO and UVic commerce student Kyle Vucko just returned from three weeks in China overseeing operations of his online tailoring business. Launched in September by Vucko and Heikal Gani, a political science student, Indochino manufactures suits marketed toward young men.

"It's come a long way — I was [in China] in April, and then we had one tailor; now we have a network of 20, a network of fabric suppliers, printing suppliers, an office, a couple of employees, and we're just about to move into another office," said Vucko. "We're getting consistent sales now, which is really cool — guys that are buying a suit a month from us, repeat customers."

Indochino sells tailor-made suits over the Internet for prices between $250 and $400; Vucko said that Indochino sells about three suits a day — roughly 100 suits per month.

"We've gone through a ton of products — we're launching three to five new products a month," said Vucko. He added Indochino's partnership with a hotel to create a suit called "the Hotelier" that sold out.

For now, Indochino has closed its second round of financing, which will cover marketing and salaries. Vucko is officially putting his commerce degree on hold to continue with the business full time.

TOP 8 LIFE-CHANGING TRIPS FOR 2008

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Course pack prices continue to rise

David Karp

(CUP) — Course pack prices are on the rise because of increasing copyright fees, sparking debate over whether those fees should be paid at all.

"Copyright fees have gone through the roof in recent years," said Jim Forbes, director of the UVic Bookstore. He said paper and photocopying make up roughly one third of a course pack costs. The rest is a fee paid to Access Copyright, an organization which licenses copyrighted works and distributes the fees to authors.

UVic paid $3.38 per full-time student in 2007, which works out to approximately $54,000. On top of that, universities also pay a per-page fee, which since 1995 has risen per page to $0.10 from $0.03.

Maureen Cavan, executive director of Access Copyright, said her organization plays an important role in helping students learn.

"We're the good guys," she said. "It's pretty difficult for individuals to call any individual publisher, any individual creator, and ask if they can make material copies of their works. So it's a collective to make that easy, a service to the industry and the education sector."

It's only fair, she said, that authors are compensated for their work.

"It's an educational expense."

But some students are taking issue with the increasing fees.

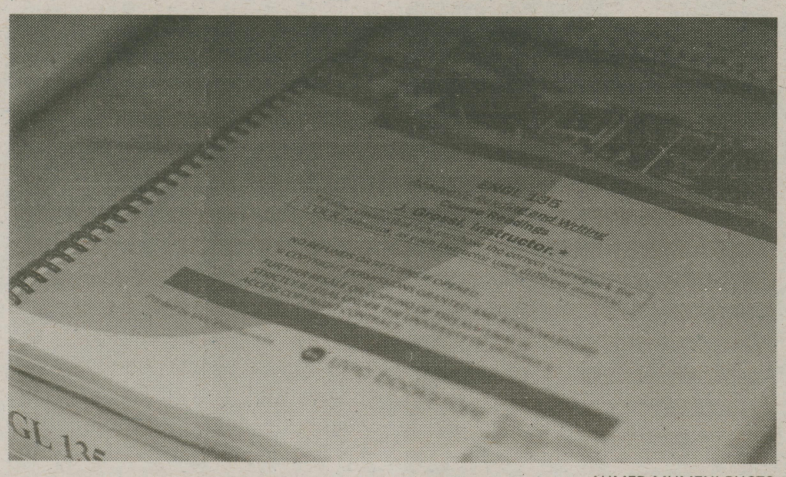
Bobby Samuel, director of academics for the University of Alberta Students' Union and organizer of the National Academic Roundtable on Academic Materials, is one of the students speaking out.

"We're concerned by the increasing cost of Access Copyright because it makes academic materials less affordable," Samuel said.

A clause in Canada's Copyright Act says that copyright is not infringed if a work is used for the purpose of private study, criticism, review or news reporting so long as the source is given. That clause, known as the fair dealing clause, makes some people question if universities need to purchase Access Copyright licences.

"I wish they weren't around, but that's the way it is right now," said Inba Kehoe, UVic's copyright officer. "Some of us in the field feel that we could do without them and just follow the legislation and go with it."

But Kehoe and Samuel said they think that Access Copyright might sue universities if they didn't purchase a license.



AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Copyright fees for course packs have more than tripled since 1995.

"Access Copyright would respond in some way, shape or form," said Samuel. "And in order to avoid those types of legal repercussions, it's in our interests to work with Access Copyright."

Cavan, however, noted that the courts have yet to establish what constitutes "private study" in the Copyright Act, but said university students doing research for class don't fit the bill.

"If you've been directed to study from that book, that wouldn't be fair use," she said. "If you were doing some personal research for your own interest outside of being directed in a course environment — [for example, if] you wanted to learn how to build a dog house, and you wanted to copy two pages from a manual to help you, that's OK."

Part of the debate comes down to whether or not universities can be considered commercial enterprises. Cavan said course packs are for commercial use and thus don't constitute private study.

But Samuel disagrees and said that fair dealing extends beyond the commercial setting of a bookstore.

"Private study could be a university student studying philosophy or Nietzsche or the lipid phosphate proteins," he said.

Cavan's organization currently monitors course packs to ensure universities are paying the correct fees. "If we see persistent errors somewhere, we'll go in and help them understand how to report more correctly," Cavan said.

Those monitoring practices could soon become even more intensive. Cavan said that Access Copyright doesn't currently monitor what students are photocopying in libraries to ensure it constitutes fair use, but wouldn't deny rumours that her organization has plans to do so.

"Who knows? I can't speak to that because it's not happening today," Cavan said.

Access Copyright's licence fees are fixed at the current rate until 2010, but Cavan wouldn't say which direction they're headed after that.

"That's three years out."

Samuel said that considering the fair dealing clause, it's not fair that universities are forced to pay high fees to Access Copyright, "especially when the costs of being an undergraduate are as high as they are right now."

CFS launches fight against copyright legislation

The Manitoba branch of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) has joined other lobby groups protesting copyright legislation expected to be introduced when the House of Commons reconvenes on Jan. 28.

The costs of course packs, textbooks and photocopying could all be affected by the proposed new legislation.

The CFS is hoping to mobilize students against the proposed reforms which it calls an "Americanization" of Canada's laws. In a letter to Stephen Harper and federal Industry Minister Jim Prentice, the Manitoba branch of CFS is hoping to gather the signatures of enough students to make the government sit up and listen.

"The changes that are being suggested to the Copyright Act will not apply the same fair use rules for digital media that students and faculty currently enjoy," the letter reads. "This will mean fewer publications available to students and higher costs for material for courses."

The CFS, along with other organizations such as Fair Copyright For Canada, is concerned that the new copyright bill will not address the needs of the Canadian public and will instead become a Canadian version of the American Digital Millennium Copyright Act.

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada has called the Digital Millennium Copyright Act an "extremely strict approach" to copyright.

The CFS national office is planning to launch a similar campaign this month. The national branch is also compiling a package of eight recommendations on copyright reform they hope the government will read.

- Magally Zelaya, The Manitoban (CUP)

Raincoast Books stops publishing

Rising dollar, demand for lower book prices cited as reasons for decision

Steve Carey

AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Award-winning author Bill Gaston said that Raincoast's closure is not the end of the world for Canadian publishing.

Raincoast Books, distributor of the Harry Potter series, has closed its publication division. But UVic-based writers say the closure isn't a sign of an industry downturn.

Vancouver-based Raincoast announced Jan. 7 that it was no longer accepting submissions for adult non-fiction and children's picture books. Its domestic publishing branch ceased its fiction program several years ago.

The announcement cited the rising Canadian dollar and consumer demand for cheaper book prices. The loss of the publishing program and the closure of a warehouse will cut 20 staff positions, five in the domestic publishing program.

UVic writing professor Lynne Van Luven said the closure was disappointing, if not a surprise.

"I think it represents the loss of another opportunity," said Van Luven. "I've talked to some of the publishers in town and their attitude is 'we saw this coming.' "

In the past, Raincoast published 25 to 30 Canadian titles a year. It will publish the remaining 15 titles on its list with full sales and marketing campaigns.

"They always were a press that was very, very invested in mass sales; so really, [by halting publishing] they're only doing what their business plan set up for them," said Van Luven. "Distribute books en masse, take books that are already successful elsewhere, and distribute them."

Founded in 1979, Raincoast began life as a wholesaler and distributor and moved into publishing in 1995. As a distributor, Raincoast represents Lonely Planet and Harcourt/Houghton Mifflin, among others. It has reportedly sold 11 million Harry Potter titles in various forms, but will no longer publish the book in Canada, instead importing it through a distribution deal with Bloomsbury U.K.

Award-winning Canadian fiction writer and UVic instructor Bill Gaston has published two books with Raincoast's now-defunct fiction division. Two previously released Gaston books were also re-published by Raincoast.

"They started cutting back on fiction about three years ago, and they fired their publisher and their main editor," said Gaston. "The writing was on the wall. We all new it was coming."

Gaston isn't fazed.

"They never were very big — it doesn't bode ill for Canadian publishing, as the [Globe and Mail] tried to suggest," he said. "They're just a publicly traded company, and they wanted to make way more money; publishing wasn't doing it."

Raincoast said that although the publishing division "has won or been short-listed for every major literary prize in Canada during the last decade, the publishing division has remained unprofitable."

Local residents speak against sewage plant

Sean Peterson

The Haro Woods remain a potential location for a future sewage treatment plant, and the Cadboro Bay Residents Association is urging the Capital Regional District (CRD) to consider other options.

Haro Woods, located east of campus between Finnerty Road and Haro Road, was identified by the CRD as a good property for a treatment plant in March. Since then, the Gordon Head and Cadboro Bay communities have rallied to preserve the woods, stating its ecological significance. With the help of volunteers, the Cadboro Bay Residents Association spent months in a cleanup project in 2007 to remove invasive plant species from the woods.

"We envision Haro Woods as being a green space for our community," said residents association president Irene Stewart. "It has always been a public woodland."

Stewart created a sewage treatment subcommittee within the residents association to consult with local government, and create an action plan that reflects the association's desire to protect the woods for generations to come. The action plan would include a set of guidelines designed to protect the Haro Woods as a green space, and pressure the government to adopt the recommendations.

The residents association has been active in making its voice heard. It sent a letter to Saanich Mayor Frank Leonard and it made a presentation to the CRD in November.

"We want to be involved in every part of the process that we're allowed to be involved in," said Stewart. "We want their decisions to be informed decisions. We want to make sure the CRD is aware of how we feel about Haro Woods — that we aren't complacent and we have strong feelings."

In order to select the most suitable site for a treatment plant, the CRD created criteria to measure the social impact, ecological impact, and development potential of each possible site. The process also included a workshop of experts, who suggested that amenities be considered in the case of Haro Woods for "community mitigation." CRD director of environmental services Dwayne Kalynchuk said amenities could include a rooftop public park, an educational centre, or access trail through the facility.

> "Are we sure we really need a sewage treatment plant in this neck of the woods?"
>
> *– Irene Stewart, CBRA President*

In a presentation made to the CRD in November, the Cadboro Bay Residents Association criticized the criteria, saying they were flawed for not placing enough importance on a community's use of the property or on community planning. They also questioned the plant's necessity.

"We begged the question, 'Are we sure we really need a sewage treatment plant in this neck of the woods?' " said Stewart. Given that the CRD plans to construct four other liquid treatment facilities, the residents association says a Saanich East plant would be unnecessary if the area is connected to the primary system.

The site selection process remains stagnant while the CRD awaits further provincial studies on treatment methods and resource recovery.

"There's been no sites selected or ruled out as of yet," said Kalynchuk. "We've identified what criteria would be used ... and in the next couple of months we'll start to look at what resource recovery opportunities are available for sewage treatment, as well as the engineering and planning that's necessary."

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NATIONAL NEWS

Students use web to beat long bar lines

Webcam lets bar patrons in Waterloo and Guelph see lineups from the comfort of their home

Gillian Farber
THE CORD WEEKLY

WATERLOO, Ont. (CUP) — Savvy night clubbers in several Ontario university towns have a new online tool to help the beat the long, and often cold, lineup.

With just the click of a mouse, people can access BeatTheBarLine.com to get a first-hand look at the lineups outside the bar and even the crowded (or not-so-crowded) dance floor, in the comfort of their home.

The website also displays the hours of operation of featured venues and provides phone numbers for taxis in the area.

Andrew Dick, the website's creator, said he and a friend from the University of Western Ontario, Peter Whitby, came up with the idea and are now starting to reap some profits from their joint online venture.

Even bar owners and managers are starting to offer positive feedback on the site.

"BeatTheBarLine.com is a great website and promotional tool that has made people more aware of Vault Lounge," said Brent Campbell, owner of Vault Lounge in Waterloo. "The cameras are very beneficial for us because having an extra set of eyes on the bar can deter criminal behavior and dishonesty with police."

Dick is now hoping to expand the site to cover more of Ontario, as well as increase participation among other bar owners. He is also considering expanding the site to include the restaurant industry.

The creators have also managed to turn a profit off the site. While there are a number of different ways to make money from a popular website, Dick said that advertising is the most effective.

"The site has advertisements for DJs, clothing stores, Waterloo Networks and so on. There are also advertising packages for promoters," Dick said.

Some students are using the site as a ritual before they hit the clubs.

"Beat the Bar Line has been really helpful for the small and up-and-coming bars because it allows users to see when the lines are too big and is useful for the more prominent bars where they can avoid the hassle of waiting in line," said Mike Horner, a third-year geomatics student at Wilfred Laurier University in Waterloo.

The site currently serves the cities of Kitchener-Waterloo and Guelph, Ont.

NATIONAL NEWS

Activists declare war on UBC admin

Brandon Adams
THE UBYSSEY

VANCOUVER (CUP) — A group referring to itself as the "Wreath Underground" has declared war on the UBC administration and vandalized several university buildings.

The group sent an e-mail to the Ubyssey, the student-run newspaper of the University of British Columbia, on December 20 in which they claimed responsibility for several acts of vandalism on campus.

"We, the warriors of the Wreath Underground claim responsibility for the recent targeted acts of vandalism on campus," reads the e-mail.

"The first of these attacks hit at the Old Administration Building where the Board of Governors and higher administration have their offices.... Our second target was the central building in the Ponderosa complex where the Board had its last significant meeting."

Following the vandalism, the Old Administration Building had several boarded up windows. Several windows at the rear of the Ponderosa complex were peppered with over a dozen golf ball sized holes.

The group pointed to a lack of student consultation about campus development projects as one of their primary motivations.

"We signed petitions. They were trashed. We laid grass and built ourselves a paradise. It was paved over and SUVs stand on Trek [Park's] grave," the e-mail read.

"Trek Park" is an independent green-space project established by students at UBC to protest a nearby underground extension of the bus loop.

"We put on a festival and invited President Fucker but he never showed. And we tried to play their game. We let them suck us into their process. We went to their consultation sessions. We sat and we waited our turn to speak. It never came."

> "We sat and we waited our turn to speak. It never came."
>
> *– Wreath Underground email*

The e-mail's authors demand that the administration "refinance," "reconsult" and "rezone."

The notice closed by saying, "We will push these fuckers until they concede every inch. This is our declaration of war, declared here in public."

Trek Park organizers Stefanie Ratjen, Jasmine Ramze-Rezaee and Nathan Crompton said that they did not know who was involved in the vandalism, but that they agreed with the group's demands if not their methods.

"The 'refinance', 'reconsult', and 'rezone' is something that the Trek Park protesters have been advocating for some time. The rhetoric used is a bit stronger," Ratjen said.

Crompton said that the attacks should be taken in context, arguing that the University was the first aggressor when it demolished the student-built Trek Park.

"The University, in its own way, has kind of launched into a type of war against the park in destroying [it]," said Crompton, "I hope that if this is at all depicted as a form of violence or something, that it's done in the context of the University's own aggressive bulldozing of the park."

Staff Sergeant Kevin Kenna of the UBC RCMP detachment said that the incidents were being investigated.

"We're investigating this and we intend to follow up as far as we can," said Kenna. "Currently we don't have any suspects, however if anybody out there in the general public has any information we'd appreciate hearing from them."

UVSS debates abortion letters

David Karp

Director-at-large Ed Pullman's suggestion to table a contreversial motion put a halt to a heated debate about an abortion issue.

At the UVic Students' Society (UVSS) Jan. 14 board of directors meeting, director of academics Caitlin Meggs moved that the UVSS write letters of support to student unions at UBC-Okanagan and Capilano College. Those student unions are in legal struggles over denying funding to pro-life student groups.

"I don't think this is something that we'd want to do at UVic, which would be to deny a club funding at all," Meggs said. "But I really thought that it was great that they were organizing against anti-choice ... we have it in our issues policy that we are pro-choice. We could send solidarity to them."

Veronica Harrison, Christine Comrie, Anna Turje and Jessie Hemphill also spoke in support of the motion. Rebecca Robb, Richard Park and Brodie Metcalf expressed concern that a letter could be misinterpreted as a signal the UVSS would be in favour of denying certain clubs funding, while Mike Waters and Corinne Harbidge spoke against the motion.

"A lot of people on campus are pro-choice, but there are quite a few people on campus who aren't," said Harbidge. "We're a student society. We're not a group made to take stances on things."

Pullman moved the motion be tabled until the next meeting on Jan. 28, when directors could read a draft letter. His motion to table passed unanimously.

we need a **grad logo**

Are you graduating in 08?

Have some artistic talent?

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The UVic Grad Class 08 is accepting submissions for logos to be used on this year's Grad Wear. We're selling tshirts, hoodies, and sweatpants to celebrate graduating and need your logo to make them fancy. Submit your graphic in jpeg format to **gradclass08@gmail.com** before January 25 2008; the Grad Class will pick from all submissions that fit the following guidelines, and the winner's logo will be prominently displayed on all Grad Gear.

- it can't include anything trademarked by UVic
- no profanity, even if it's funny
- black and white

Note: you must be graduating (undergrad) in April to qualify, but we don't care if it took you longer than Conrad Black's jail sentence to complete.

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Opinions

EDITORIAL

Increasing the gas tax a mistake

The wheels on the bus should go round and round more often. But the tax man on the bus is not helping.

It's clear that public transit in Victoria is in need of funding. If you live along the #14 bus route, you've inevitably been passed by in the morning on your way to class. Any student who's flown out of the Victoria International Airport has probably forked over $20 for the shuttle because there's no public transit to the airport from downtown between 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. on weekdays. And many students can empathize with having to dash out of the pub around midnight in a panic because the last bus home leaves in two minutes. And if you live in Cordova Bay or Sooke, tough.

On Jan. 14, the provincial government announced $4.75-billion in funding for public transit over the next 13 years, without detailing where the funding will come from. Finance Minster Carole Taylor projected that B.C. will have a surplus of $2.1 billion for the 2007-08 fiscal year. Hopefully, that surplus can help pay for the proposed spending.

We should be increasing transit funding. But increasing the gas tax to fund public transit — as the UVic Students' Society is campaigning to do — is misguided because it hurts low-income people the most.

The price of gas affects more than just driving habits. It plays a major role in setting prices and determining what commodities we purchase, including essentials such as food.

Gasoline powers machinery such as tractors, and has a broad impact on prices. Given that we live on an island, we are particularly susceptible to prices changes resulting from a gas tax.

A recent study by researchers at Yale and Berkeley called Revisiting the Income Effect: Gasoline Prices and Grocery Purchases found that consumers reduce their spending on food in response to higher gasoline prices, first cutting down on restaurant meals, then by buying cheaper products at the grocery store.

Research by Michigan economist Lutz Kilian confirms those findings: people spend less on fresh fruit and vegetables as well as fish and seafood — healthy fare. No UVSS member would want to encourage unhealthy eating habits, but it's a likely consequence of increasing the gas tax.

There are innovative ways to work around the problem. For instance, the Saskatchewan government doesn't charge farmers tax on gasoline and propane they use on their farms. Farmers need to apply for a permit, but once they have one they just show it to the gas station attendant when they purchase their fuel to avoid being taxed.

In B.C., there's a similar rebate but farmers must first pay the tax, and then fill out a mound of paperwork to claim a refund. A date of purchase, invoice number, name of fuel supplier, type of fuel and quantity purchased and numerous other information must all be provided to claim the tax break. They also have to calculate how much fuel was already in their car when they made the purchase and the quantity of fuel used for non-farm purposes. If a farmer drives his rutabagas to the United States, there's extra paperwork for that too.

It's a wonder any farmer bothers to claim a rebate. Reforms are needed to ensure farmers and food prices would not be hard hit by a gas tax increase.

Even then, a gas tax increase would force people to make some hard sacrifices. Students can live with giving up their weekly pizza night in favour of a home-cooked meal, but what if students are forced to give up fruits and vegetables or fish in favour of Kraft Dinner?

We need more transit, but the UVSS should carefully consider how to fund it responsibly. Maybe there's a way the wheels on the bus can go round and round, Old MacDonald can have his farm, and students can have their cake and eat it too.

Editorial topics and stances are decided on by staff at our weekly editorial meeting at 3:30 p.m. every Friday in the Martlet office (SUB B011). Editorials are written by one or more staff members and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

TOOTING OUR HORNS TO THE GAS TAX

"Sir, I grant you a gas tax!"

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Obstacles and debacles ongoing at Bear Mountain

Ingmar Lee

The sprawling Bear Mountain Resort at the north entrance to Greater Victoria is the largest planet-trashing, get-rich-quick development project currently underway on Vancouver Island.

If you haven't seen Bear Mountain yet, hike up Mt. Finlayson from Goldstream Park and prepare to get grossed out. As far as the eye can see, the Highland hilltops which backdrop Victoria are being stripped of trees, blasted flat and squared off into staggered terraces.

The still-steaming stump fields are being plowed away, burnt, and replaced with a fluorescent green, chemical and water-sucking biological wasteland, specially designed by American golf pro Jack Nicklaus. Among the remaining stumps, an ancient Songhees lithic scatter site stands out, marked with fluttering orange flags. Nearby, a once-sacred cave has been demolished.

Blast rock rubble is dumped straight into the watersheds which drain the mountain, flattening out the valleys to make way for more subdivision. Monster houses rise up in ranks. Roads are snaked all over the mountain, with massive crew cabs full of workmen dodging Hummers and Navigators.

But the Bear Mountain development scheme is only halfway complete. Having completed Phase One using existing infrastructure, developers require more access to proceed with Phase Two. They desperately need this interchange to double their money. Their project can't proceed without it, and they're antsy to get on with it.

The interchange consortium — Bear Mountain, the City of Langford, the Ministry of Transportation and Golder Associates — announced at a November public meeting that the Bear Mountain interchange would proceed. Tree cutting was to commence in mid-December.

Last year, Les Bjola of Bear Mountain and Langford Mayor Stew Young promised that developers would finance the total $30-million cost. But in a ridiculous display of fiscal irresponsibility, B.C. Transportation Minister Kevin Falcon threw $4.9-million of public money into the interchange pot, even though developers had already promised to pay.

Not to be outdone, at a secret meeting two days after Christmas, Langford municipal council passed three readings of a bill to borrow $25-million — more than double the city's annual budget — apparently to ease the stress of the developers. Now the taxpayers of Langford will bear all the risk and cross their fingers that developers will pay them back over 10 years.

Rather than consult the people now slated to bankroll the interchange, only Bear Mountain developers and their associates were consulted. Outraged citizens are now in a one-month canvassing campaign of Langford taxpayers, petitioning for a referendum. Even Langford residents who support the interchange are signing the petitions.

There are other obstacles thwarting the developers, which include the rejection of the bogus Golder Associates Environmental and Archaeological Impact Assessments by the B.C. government in December 2006. No assessment of any kind has been conducted on the latest alignment of the interchange route. No new Golder report has been forthcoming, and the project can't proceed until their report has been approved.

Golder's report was likely rejected because it missed significant features of the interchange site, including numerous karst sinkholes, which could yield important archeological and paleontological resources. Karst sinkholes are often indicators of subterranean caverns.

Many of the sinkholes show evidence of historic excavations, but nobody knows anything about these diggings. They failed to examine a limestone cave between Leigh Road and Highway 1 "because of safety issues and First Nations concerns."

Golder's rubber stamping of Bear Mountain interchange is an insult to the burgeoning environmental community in Greater Victoria. Until recently, Golder has flown under the radar of environmentalists, quietly approving massive corporate and government projects across the province.

Not any more. Tree sitters remain on high alert, ready to block any attempt to trash the forest. By the looks of this growing mess, they may well be there for a long time to come.

martlet
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THE HAPPY HERETIC

Why doctors should play God

Derek Madson

On Oct. 23, 2007, I exceeded my natural lifespan. Had the year been 1907 rather than 2007, my abscessed appendix would have ruptured, and I would have died shortly thereafter.

During my stay at Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria I was truly awestruck on a personal and visceral level by what I already knew on an abstract and theoretical level — the human beings who work to keep others alive in our health care system represent the highest pinnacle of this, the great golden age of human civilization.

For this reason I have to suppress a shudder when I hear people malign advances in biomedical research as "playing God." I encourage everyone to fearlessly and forcefully speak out against such ridiculous instances of non-thinking when some crackpot tut-tuts about scientists "playing God." Remind these fools that virtually every person in this country would be dead if not for all the "playing God" that goes on in science.

The fact is that any surgeon in a modern hospital is far more deserving of the right to "play God" than any of the genocidal misogynists vying for supernatural supremacy among the scourge of monotheistic deities that currently infest the planet. Why? Here are the Happy Heretic's top 10 reasons why doctors are better qualified at "playing God" than Yahweh, Jehovah, or Allah:

Your average doctor…

10. seeks to halt genocide, not incite it (Genesis 6:5-9; Genesis 19; Deuteronomy 2:21-24; Deuteronomy 2:26-35; Deuteronomy 7:1-2; Joshua 10:40-41; Numbers 21:2-3; Numbers 21:33-35; Numbers 31:1-18).

9. will treat anyone — friend or foe — and doesn't pick favourites between who they will or will not save on the basis of race or belief (i.e. most of the Old Testament).

8. seeks to alleviate or prevent plagues, not cause them (Exodus 7-11).

7. treats women as human beings equal to any other, not as property (Qur'an 4:34).

6. prescribes second opinions, rather than stoning, for those who disagree with their assessment (Deuteronomy 13:6-10).

5. doesn't punish those who disobey orders by killing their first-born infant sons (Passover/Exodus 12).

4. uses their abilities to alleviate suffering, not to inflict it as a tool to enforce obedience (Qur'an 4:56).

3. doesn't go around trying to steal all the patients from other doctors (First Commandment).

2. will commit a man to a mental ward if he tries to kill his son under the command of voices in his head, rather than revere him as a patriarch (Genesis 22).

1. exists (think for yourself).

Thank *goodness* for the knowledge and scientific skills of doctors, and for all the organs of science, medicine and biomedical research. Here's to "playing God." May our standards of healing continue along the accelerating march toward conquering death itself, when humans will become truly immortal and banish the gods of our intellectual infancy into history, alongside other foolish ideas such as alchemy, astrology and phrenology.

LETTERS

Newfie Night spin unappreciated

The Newfie Night held by the Canadian Political Science Student Association delegates of the Undergraduate Politics Society (UPS) was tasteful and positive ('Newfie' party draws criticism, Jan. 10). I and other delegates are upset by the negative spin put on our event by Rosemary Westwood and the Martlet staff's editorial cartoon.

The intention behind our event was solely to fundraise and celebrate Newfoundland. Seeing as 'Newfie nights' are commonly held throughout Canada and with the blessing from our Newfoundland friends, we decided it was alright. The conference organizer had no issues with Newfie Night whatsoever.

However, it was a nuisance for them to deal with Westwood's persistent attempt to create a story; we hope that our presence hasn't been tainted by this irritation.

We're thrilled to go to Newfoundland as it's a first visit for all but one of us. It's an amazing opportunity that we have to travel so far and we're all grateful. We plan to have a fantastic time and hope that in the future people will have more faith in the UPS.

- Alexia Kerr, UPS international representative

Controversy over nothing

It's nice to see that once again our campus paper has chosen to run articles to create something out of nothing rather than something worthy of debate ('Newfie' party draws criticism, Jan. 10). Although the quote from the UPS e-mail, which encouraged students to dress up as their favourite "Newfie stereotype," should have been edited, so too should the reporter's reference to the 2006 Edmonton Sun article in which a police officer who linked the term "Newfie" to mental health. The circumstances and reasons behind each case are not comparable and some professional journalism (and some editing) would have been appropriate. Furthermore, in reference to the English professor's non-attendance to such an event, why would he attend anyways?

It would seem the report inconvenienced enough people for the sake of writing an article that it should have remained in the opinions section, not on the front page.

Finally, the assertion that people would dress up as fishermen reminds me of last summer when my family "screeched in" an Albertan: we dressed him up as a fisherman and made him do a Newfie jig on seaweed with a cod in his hand and then take of shot of screech.

- Randy Neville, UVic student and son of a Newfoundlander

'Vapid' editorial is insulting

I've often been offended, personally and professionally, by what I've seen in the Martlet over the years, but now you've really gone and done it.

This past editorial was vapid, ill-researched, badly written, and topped by a poorly executed, CNN-style, "go for the emotional jugular" punch line (Blood donor policy rooted in reason, not homophobia, Jan. 10).

I take issue with the latent homophobia required by the media to wave the exclusion of gay men as a flag that'll solve all of Canadian Blood Services' blood quality issues. Instead of investigating what's behind the exclusion, you implored us to keep our mouths shut and think of the children.

The policy needs consistency. If gays are excluded on the basis that they might have HIV, then I too should be excluded, since student-aged women are now the most likely candidates for new HIV contractions. Maybe it's time to look at more nuanced screening methods as opposed to all-out bans.

On the bright side, the editorial you've written is generating a lot of buzz around the topic. Hopefully Martlet readers will be more discerning than its editorial writers when doing their own investigation of the issue.

- Penny Beames, former UVSS chairperson

Don't have a cow

I read your editorial on Canadian Blood Services screening homosexual men attempting to give blood (Blood donor policy rooted in reason, not homophobia, Jan. 10) and was reminded of my own experience donating in the United States. I filled out a large survey, answering no to all the questions but one: have you spent more than six months in the UK before the year 2000? I answered yes, and was told by the lady at the desk the I could not donate blood because I was a potential carrier of mad cow disease.

Blood donation programs screen donors meticulously. The program I dealt with in the U.S. didn't want to discriminate against British people. They just wanted to protect their donors from the potential biohazard I posed due to the many burgers I ate in London and Glasgow as a child.

The same is true with this policy of screening homosexual men. No one is saying that every homosexual has AIDS, just like no one is saying that I have mad cow disease (knock on wood). It's just a matter of safety.

- Jim Hill, UVic student

Praises to parsley

Amber Dujay should be careful for what she wishes for (Hope for a better new year, Jan. 10). If parsley, one of the finest delicacies in the world, was destroyed, every human would have an eternal feeling of something missing in their lives.

The sensation in one's mouth as they slowly chew the bright green herb is like no other, and brings meaning to our life. As a parsley lover, I must insist that having it stuck in my teeth is a privilege — it gives me the happy responsibility of showing it off to others by smiling. Nobody can resist a smile and parsley combined.

However, I'd like to make women aware of the health risks of eating parsley when they are pregnant. I read on the all-knowing Wikipedia that parsley can cause "uterine stimulation and preterm labour." Parsley, live long and prosper.

- Andrew Brown, UVic student

Day of Fraction-of-the-cost

The Student Day of Action is fast approaching. I remember watching the news after the Legislature march a few years ago and seeing two vocal UVic activists bitterly complaining about a couple thousand dollars of student debt.

I graduated from UVic in 2005 with $42,449 of student loans. Yet I was able to pay it off in less than two years (and support my wife and son) solely with my own earnings.

I began an exciting career and spent a season in Canada's Arctic working on a large environmental cleanup project. My university education has given me opportunities that I would otherwise not have been afforded.

To those students who are planning to protest because they've racked up a few thousand dollars in loans, I offer this perspective: the seemingly large debt you are incurring is small compared to the career-spanning increase in earnings that your post-secondary education will provide.

Then remember this: nothing in life is free; everything worth having takes hard work and sacrifice. Thank your lucky stars that you live in a country where your fellow taxpayers already contribute over two-thirds of the actual cost to educate you.

- R. Scott Hall, UVic alumnus

Happy? Sad? Enraged? Engaged?
Tell us: letters@martlet.ca
The Martlet has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community. Letters must be submitted by e-mail, include your real name and affiliation to UVic, and have "Letter to the editor" in the subject line. Letters must be under 200 words and may be edited.

Blood donor policy should target behaviour

Sam VanSchie

Gay blood is good blood, and the Canadian Blood Services' outdated policy of banning men who have sex with men from ever donating blood because of presumed HIV contamination is outdated and homophobic. HIV is spread though personal behaviour, not sexual orientation. The infection is most often passed through unsafe vaginal, anal or oral sex with an infected individual, where blood-to-blood contact is likely because of small tears in the skin. People may also become exposed to infected blood through sharing needles or pipes (because people who smoke from pipes often have cut lips) and being born to a HIV-positive mother.

It is rare to become infected through blood products in Canada because of screening. Canadian Blood Services tests all blood for HIV after donation. Since 1999, nucleic acid testing has been used to find even low levels of infection in blood donated by someone who contracted HIV three to five days before donating. Their donation restrictions have not kept up with this new technology.

Somebody would have had to contract the virus quite recently for the test to miss it. But as a further precaution, Canadian blood is shocked at a high temperature to kill any viruses that might be present. Of course, it is best to keep HIV out of blood in the first place. People known to have HIV definitely shouldn't donate and probably wouldn't try.

The generic ban on males who have sex with other men is totally unnecessary and stigmatizes an already marginalized group. Women who have sex with bisexual men are only banned for two years and even Health Canada's new homophobic restriction that men can't donate organs for five years after having sex with another man is less rigid.

With a blood shortage, it would save lives to update the Canadian Blood Services policy. The HIV epidemic is better understood today then it ever has been.

From the start of testing in November 1985 until the end of June 2007, there have been 63,604 positive HIV tests reported to the Centre for Infectious Disease Prevention and Control in Canada. Indeed, from 1985-2001, male-to-male sex accounted for the majority (62 per cent) of adult HIV diagnoses. But in 2006 that number dropped to 39 per cent and it continues to decline because of education and testing in that community. Meanwhile, heterosexuals are the fastest-growing category. Education and testing is less common among people outside a perceived risk group. Many people think if they aren't gay or using drugs they aren't at risk. That's why it is important to do away with the idea of risk groups all together and consider risk behaviour instead

Canadian Blood Services would be better to limit sexually promiscuous individuals, or people that have unprotected sex. They could be more inclusive by judging appropriate donors by their number of sexual partners since their last negative HIV test or ask that people refrain from sex for five days before donating. The press from such a policy change would show that it isn't just gay men who are at risk of HIV, and would promote safety and education in all communities and slow the spread of the infection. Schools such as McGill have already banned Canadian Blood Services from parts of their campus for their homophobic policy.

Students represent the greatest proportion of blood donors, and so our collective resistance speaks loud. We can force Canadian Blood Services to update their policy.

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Shuttle would help students

Spencer Anderson

Too many UVic students find themselves standing on a Victoria street corner at 3 a.m. wondering how they will get home. The city buses aren't running. Chances are it's freezing outside, and the options aren't appealing: a $25 taxi ride or a long, unpleasant trek home.

If only there was another way.

There might be. Hopefully, by the time you are reading these words, the Victoria city council will have approved a proposal by the Victoria Bar and Cabaret Association to run a shuttle from downtown to UVic. Tickets would only cost $5 per person and run between midnight and 3 a.m.

It's safe, cheap and convenient. And it's financed by the passengers and the bars — there is no cost to taxpayers. The proposal would positively affect student life. Thank goodness that's settled.

Well, not quite. UVic Students' Society (UVSS) chairperson Tracy Ho and David Clode, the university's executive director of student and ancillary services, are expressing well-intentioned concerns that the shuttle service would be unsafe, impractical and a "Band-Aid" approach to solving the dilemma.

This is nonsense. Let's look at these nagging doubts more closely.

There are legitimate reasons to be concerned for the safety of students, especially female students, at a late night drop-off. Clode wants shuttles to leave students near the entrances to the university, but Ho is uncomfortable with the idea of students having to walk to the residence buildings. Why not allow the shuttle to drop the students off beside the Campus Security building? It doesn't get much safer than that.

Apparently, it wouldn't be a very good idea to have the shuttle drop students off on campus because "misfortune can occur." In other words, there is no guarantee that all the people on the shuttle are UVic students or residents.

Hang on. It's unsafe to drop students off outside of campus, and also unsafe to drop them off on campus? Directly from downtown? Horrors!

Come to think of it, what assurance does UVic have that all the passengers on the city buses that stop at the university late at night are UVic students or residents? None. It seems strange, therefore, that the identity of every passenger on the proposed shuttle would suddenly be a concern.

If worst comes to worst, Campus Security is around to keep the peace. The odd shifty passenger might bring them welcome reprieve from the drudgery of doling out parking tickets.

A shuttle that drops students off near residence would be a marked improvement on leaving students stranded late at night. The UVSS and UVic should welcome the new service with open arms.

Financial aid needs reform

Denise Savoie
VICTORIA NDP MP

Student aid in Canada needs to be fixed.

Fifteen years of rising student fees have shifted the burden of higher education onto low- and middle-class families, at a time when our economy is growing and our fiscal capacity is overflowing.

The recent federal commitment to increase core education transfers is drastically insufficient. And Canada's patchwork of student assistance is inadequate. It has been built piecemeal to distract from the massive Liberal funding cuts of the '90s. Savings programs and tax credits appear years before or after students most need support, and they disproportionately benefit wealthier individuals instead of students and families in need.

It would be wrong to conclude that more student loans are the solution. Focusing on loans instead of grants would widen the gap between two classes of students in Canada: one class that can afford to pay up front for education costs, and a second class who are forced to borrow and end up paying substantially more through loan interest. Converting the Millennium Scholarship Foundation into more student loans would gravely hurt the ability of families to afford post-secondary education.

A better balance of grants is required to enhance equitable access to higher education by offsetting student loans and reducing student debt. These grants must be available to all Canada Student Loan borrowers, on a scale according to need, in all years of study. This federal student grant system must work with the provinces to ensure no existing funding is clawed back. It must not exclude older or financially independent students, and it must include targeted measures to ensure equitable access for students from rural, aboriginal, low-income and other backgrounds facing barriers to higher education.

The privatization of student loan administration has given priority to the profit of collection agencies rather than helping student borrowers repay their loans without financial hardship. This has created confused communication and accountability, evidenced by whole web sites dedicated to student loan horror stories. Many students find it impossible to determine the amount of their loans or receive current account updates. Returning student loans to Human Resources and Social Development Canada would ensure a simpler, more efficient and more student-friendly system.

I have collected petitions from campuses and communities across Canada in support of several changes to make student loans more responsive to the needs and circumstances of student borrowers:

• The federal government should reduce the interest rate on Canada Student Loans.

• Canada needs a federal student loan ombudsperson. American students have benefited from an ombudsperson since 1999. Only 34 per cent of borrowers who encounter a problem with Canada's student loan service centre are satisfied with the resolution. Students need a full-time advocate who can to help navigate the loan system, objectively resolve problems and ensure they are treated with fairness and respect.

• The federal government should provide better relief during repayment of loans, including expanding eligibility for permanent disability benefits, interest relief and debt reduction. The current relief system is needlessly complicated, resulting in hundreds of students forced into financial hardship every year.

• There should be strict federal standards governing the conduct of government and private student loan collection agents. The government must be assertive in collections; however, there have been too many reports of harassment and abuse by federally contracted collection agencies.

• The student loan review should also amend the "lifetime limit" on loans such that they are not repayable until six months after the completion of full-time studies, including doctoral programs and medical residency. Reduce the discriminatory ban on bankruptcy protection for student loans to two years and address the recommendations of the Coalition for Student Loan Fairness and other student groups.

All Canadians should have equal access to post-secondary education without incurring a lifetime of debt. The government must act to fix student aid and put students first.

UVic Grad Class 2008 Legacy Project

The Uvic Grad Class 2008 is now accepting proposals for the

Grad Class 2008 Legacy Project.

Submit a one-page proposal describing what kind of legacy you would like the Class of 2008 to leave. Proposals can be *community-oriented* or *geared to UVic*, so let your creative juices flow!

Winning proposals will be presented at the Grad Luncheon, Fairmont Empress Hotel, February 3, 2008.

For more information: gradclass08@gmail.com
Deadline for Proposals: January 25, 2008 at midnight
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Winners will be notified by January 28, 2008.

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THE FRIGHT OF FLIGHT

BY SHAWN SLAVIN

A FIRST-PERSON ACCOUNT OF MAYHEM I

UVic science student Shawn Slavin was on the turbulent Air Canada flight 190 from Victoria to Toronto on Jan. 10. The Airbus A-319 plunged hundreds of feet over the Kootenays before recovering and making an emergency landing in Calgary. Many people aboard were injured. Slavin shares what happened on the scariest flight of his life.

After the daunting task of waking up at 3 a.m. to catch my flight to Montreal through Toronto, I didn't think my journey to yet another Millennium Scholarship conference would be an exciting one — until about 25 minutes after flight AC 190 left Victoria.

We took off from the Victoria International Airport about 20 minutes prior — the pilot had already turned the seatbelt sign off. I got out of my seat and walked down the aisle to the bathroom. I looked down at the very last row — to the right, every seat was reserved for flight attendants, but on the left there was an empty row of three seats. "Maybe I'll come back and lie down," I thought to myself.

Little did I know I would be spending most of the flight in those seats.

I shut the lavatory door and unzipped my fly. All of a sudden, my entire body flung forward and I smashed my forehead against the bathroom wall. My body followed as I was forced up against the wall above the toilet.

I thought I must be dreaming. The only thing keeping me in reality was hearing people screaming outside of the bathroom, and loud thuds as things flew around the cabin. There was no way that something like this could be happening; the odds of dying in a plane are one in millions and I am not going to be that odd one.

My body was tossed backwards as my head first made contact with the door, followed by my entire body being lifted off of the floor and hitting the roof of the plane, before crashing back to the floor. I heard the ding telling passengers to put their seatbelts on.

AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Shawn Slavin wears his bracelet from Montreal's Royal Victoria Hospital. Slavin was injured during flight AC 190.

"I need to sit down," I thought to myself. But there were no safety restraints in the bathroom. I tried to turn around and take a seat on the toilet, but my body flopped in the bathroom like a rag doll, my hands flailing and my legs uncontrollable.

I thought that an engine must have blown or a wing had fallen off. That's when it hit me: we are 37,000 feet in the air. We are fucked.

I hit the walls more than a dozen times and my face hit the bathroom mirror on more than one occasion. I tried to prop myself up in hopes that I could stop being tossed around. I pushed against the walls of the plane's bathroom, but nothing worked. It felt like I was in a roller coaster without a safety harness.

I took hold of the bathroom counter and pushed my body against it, trying to hold on to the seat. My body was still being flung around.

"I need to get back to my seat and put on a seatbelt so that I can stop hitting my head," I thought. I tried to open the door but I couldn't. I pushed and pushed. I started to kick the door, harder with each attempt.

It was at that point that I felt closest to death. My life flashed before my eyes — actually. I thought I was going to die in the next minute, but my body was still trying to get the door open.

The scary part about being in a bathroom when something like this goes on is that you become completely disoriented. You have no idea what has gone on. There are no windows and you don't know what the situation is like in the cabin. I thought we were still plummeting toward the ground.

As my mind returned from wandering, I realized this was not a dream. We were staring death in the face.

I continued to pound my foot against the door. I wanted out of the bathroom more than you can imagine. I couldn't get much force kicking while sitting down so I stood up, grasping the sink faucet to keep me from being thrown back and forth. Then it came to me: I have to unlock the door first.

I unlocked the door.

Without even unlatching the handle, the door flung open and hit the wall. I was trying to decide whether to try making it back to my seat. But I was sitting close to the front of the plane and I didn't want to attempt to make it back. I pulled myself up into the row of empty seats in the back just as the plane was starting to level out. I still needed to go to the bathroom.

There were people screaming and crying. The food carts were tipped over and the plane was a mess. It actually looked like a war zone. One of the flight attendants was lying on the ground, blood dripping down her face, pulling herself and crawling to the back of the airplane. Books, glasses and purses were all down the aisle. The girl sitting in front of me was crying as her mother tried to console her.

I thought that an engine must have blown or a wing had fallen off. That's when it hit me: we are 37,000 feet in the air. We are fucked.

WILLIE LI GRAPHIC

It actually looked like a war zone. One of the flight attendants was lying on the ground, blood dripping down her face.

This horrible image has become a permanent memory that keeps playing through my mind.

I did up my seatbelt and started to think. What a life-changing experience the next 40 minutes was. I just sat there, drifting in and out of daydreams.

The flight attendants got up off of the ground and started to help anyone that was injured. A few people were complaining of head and neck injuries, another lady broke her arm, and the lady I was sitting next to completely dislocated her finger. There was blood, vomit and a lot of scared people.

One of the flight attendants came by and asked if I needed ice — the goose egg on my forehead had already started to grow. I took the ice and the flight attendant went on to help other passengers. I wanted to get up and help but I was too scared that something would happen again.

It took another 10 minutes or so for what happened to finally set in.

One of the flight attendants, who was extremely beat up, took a seat next to me and started to cry. There is something unnerving about a professional getting upset in their work environment, but she was more than justified to do so.

The captain came on the P.A. and explained what happened. He said we were going to make an emergency landing in Calgary, about half an hour away. It wasn't until the plane was 15 minutes outside of Calgary that I realized that my fly was still down. I quickly fixed that.

We landed in Calgary just after 8:30 a.m. Mountain Standard Time, where we were greeted by roughly a dozen ambulances and fire trucks at the side of the runway. We stopped on the runway for a couple of minutes before taxiing to a gate. The flight crew asked that anyone who was injured stay on board the plane and said that everyone else needed to get off.

Firefighters and paramedics stormed the airplane from both the front and back emergency doors. Before I knew it, there were about 10 EMS people on board looking after the nine injured passengers and crew.

I could still walk, and I was pretty sure I was safe from any head or neck injuries, so I walked off the plane with Ben, one of the paramedics. I was given a green wristband identifying me as a moderately injured person. The wristband was sticky all the way around, and pulled out a lot of hair when I took it off later that afternoon.

I was checked out by a paramedic. He took my blood pressure, checked my breathing, looked at my head and checked the oxygen level in my blood. My head and face were quite sore, as was my neck. I still had the ice bag on my right cheek and eye.

We sat in the Calgary airport for two hours, huddled together at one of the gates. I called my dad and I think he was more scared than I was. I sat and talked with a couple of other teenagers from Shawnigan Lake — we were all pretty shaken up. Air Canada agents were around everywhere. There were probably 80 people walking around asking if we needed anything and checking to make sure that we were OK — physically, mentally, and emotionally.

Our flights were all re-booked. I got a direct flight from Calgary to Montreal. Some people didn't want to get on another plane and decided to spend the night in Calgary. I had about an hour and a half to wait, so I went to the Maple Leaf Lounge and tried to calm myself down.

Over the next couple of days, I spent more than 21 hours in a Montreal hospital. I currently have immense back, shoulder, neck and head injuries. I have gotten multiple X-rays done as well as a CAT scan. The doctors told me nothing was broken or fractured, and there was no significant bleeding in the brain, but the multiple blows to my head did leave me with a concussion.

I cannot even begin to explain the thoughts that have gone through my mind over the last few days; I still cannot believe that this whole thing happened.

I left Montreal on Sunday afternoon and arrived back in Victoria around 10 p.m.

I have never been so happy to return to Victoria.

AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Shawn Slavin returned home this week after a disorienting plane trip which resulted in an emergency landing in Calgary.

Nomination jump-starts recent grad's career

Samantha Magnus

Emerging onto the writing scene is no gentle process.

UVic grad Marjorie Celona, a finalist for the RBC Bronwen Award, knows this. In a e-mail interview she described the early stages of a writing career as "one pie in the face after the next."

Her nomination is like a puff of perfume over the candle that the 27-year-old self-described rookie holds to the daunting world of published fiction.

"The week before I got the call about the award I'd gotten something like eight rejection letters in a row, my car wouldn't start, I threw a Christmas party and three people came and I was truly having that, 'It's over — right here, right now' feeling," Celona explained. "It means the world to me. It makes me feel like this impossible thing I'm doing is slightly more possible."

> "The week before I got the call about the award I'd gotten something like eight rejection letters in a row"
>
> – *Marjorie Celona*

Celona launched herself from her UVic creative writing degree in 2006 by winning the Victoria Medal in Fine Arts. As an emerging writer, she hit the pavement running: her first published story won second prize in THIS Magazine's 2005 Great Canadian Literary Hunt, and her second won Indiana Review's 2005 Fiction Prize and was published in *07: Best Canadian Stories*.

The story that put Celona on the Bronwen Wallace podium is *Othello*, about a man remembering a road trip to Othello, Washington with an autistic step-brother.

"I think it's about love and needing to feel like you have a purpose in the world," wrote Celona, who finds families are a common theme in her work.

Bronwen Wallace was a poet and mentor who published late and died young, at 35 and 44 respectively. The award has been granted in her name to little-known Canadian fiction writers and poets under 35 since 1994. This year, Celona shared the honour with one writer from Edmonton and one from Toronto. As a finalist, she will come away with $1,000. If she wins the grand prize, she'll be taking home $5,000.

Celona writes that she's "often struck by the sensation that this could all end, right here, right now. It's so tenuous." But she's building momentum.

She has galed from calm-weather Victoria to the University of Iowa, where the drama in the sky outside is matched only by the drama in the minds inside the Iowa Writer's Workshop students.

"If we're not having an ice storm, thunder-and-lightning storm, blizzard, or 90 degree heat with 100 per cent humidity, there's a tornado on the horizon," wrote Celona.

In her workshops, students thunder through each others' stories, sometimes word by word, for hours before moving on to the next piece. After a gruelling day of paper shredding, the fiction and poetry students retreat to their respective bars and get plastered. Other team-building activities include being sardined into the workshop basement while tornado warnings blow over.

Other wildlife comes in the small and buzzing form. Celona says she writes a collection of short stories for her creative thesis with pen in one hand and flyswatter in the other.

PROVIDED PHOTO

UVic graduate Marjorie Celona is making it as a fiction writer.

"All this is my way of saying I love Iowa," wrote Celona after describing the mayhem. "It's a magical place, with fireflies, cicadas, katydids, and crazy lightning, and two years there is a gift." Celona will emerge from her residency in 2009 with a Master of Fine Arts degree.

Life at UVic was also a gift. "I miss walking through the halls of Fine Arts and yakkin' with everyone," Celona wrote. "I miss the forest and the ocean more than anything; I miss Elk Lake."

She touts UVic professor Lorna Jackson as her biggest influence. "I hold her 100 per cent accountable for all the wonderful things that have happened to me and my writing over the last few years," she wrote.

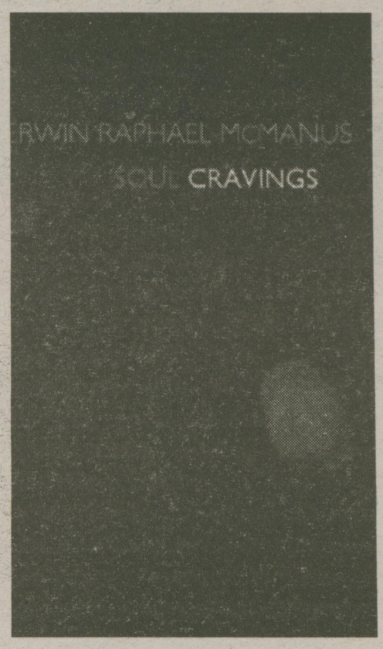
Celona's latest dream is to cozy up with ink and parchment in a cabin in the woods or maybe cart a light chrome trailer up North ... or maybe see Europe. More certain is that Celona's art will continue to unfurl — not in the soft way of flower petals in the morning but in this pie by pie by pie in the sky way. And it'll be with all the literal and figurative blizzards and tornadoes of the literary world.

BOOK REVIEW

Religious book tells personal story of faith

Soul Cravings
Erwin Raphael McManus
Thomas Nelson
256 pages

Elizabeth Hames



As a pastor at Mosaic church in Los Angeles and a self-identified Christian, Erwin Raphael McManus presents readers with an optimistic account of what it means to be a Christian in his newest book, *Soul Cravings*.

McManus's impetus for writing this book is to "guide you on a spiritual journey and help you discover that which is already there within you." That is, God and God's love.

He tries to do this by outlining three major cravings of the human soul: intimacy, destiny and meaning, to help readers realize that the only thing that can fulfill these soul cravings is God.

Soul Cravings is like a diary, using a titled-entries format and being void of any pagination. McManus does this because the book is an account of a personal journey through the human soul and toward God, a journey similar to the one he wants to take us on.

The journey in *Soul Cravings* is McManus' journey. Some of his stories are quite personal and allow the reader to feel what he feels when we learn his secrets.

The writing is filled with literary allusions and pop culture references, which makes it easy to identify with. He discusses a range of music groups from Tina Turner to Radiohead and movies from *21 Grams* to *Star Wars*, often citing lyrics and film quotations as a way of annotating his ideas. Early on he describes Robert Young Pelton's book *The World's Most Dangerous Places* and notes that it doesn't mention the most dangerous place of all — being in love.

"[This] makes me wonder if he's ever been in love," writes McManus.

> Nelson elaborates on ideas and questions that concern all of humanity.

Love is one of many topics discussed in *Soul Cravings*. The attempt is to not just talk about things that are relevant to Christians, but to elaborate on ideas and questions that concern all humanity. In doing this, non-Christians can learn about God in a way that affects them.

Although it is commendable to write a book that speaks to people outside of one's realm of belief, McManus makes the mistake of formulating strong assumptions about the reason people don't believe in God. This can lead non-believers into thinking the book was not written for them.

However, *Soul Cravings* is a quick an inspiring read, even if readers don't become convinced that God exists or disagree with concepts presented in the book.

Bublé's entertainment a new kind of old

Jennifer Zhou

JENNIFER ZHOU PHOTO

Bublé stirred up quite a fever with fans at the Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre on Jan. 13. His old-school charisma worked wonders on Victoria.

Walking into a dance club in downtown New York, you might expect to hear the booming DJ's nightly creations filling the house with a mix of techno, hip-hop, R&B and soul.

But in the Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre on Jan. 10, dizzying highs of an electric guitar on overdrive were matched with ground-shaking lows of bass and drums. Beautiful harmonies tuned into an incredible mix of rhythms and melodies: all sans instruments.

Completely reinterpreting the meaning of a cappella, Naturally 7, from New York City, delivered a spectacular performance to a standing ovation. And that was just the opening act.

The theme of making the old new was echoed throughout the night as Michael Bublé leaped up onto the stage to bring old standards back to life. And Bublé understands the difference between music and performance. Whether or not he has the best looks, the best moves, or even the best voice, Michael Bublé is convincing — he's even got a few tricks up his sleeve.

The young-but-seasoned performer took command of his stage. One moment he was channelling Frank Sinatra's relentless charisma, the next he was bouncing back with the boyish charm of Bobby Darin. Bublé can go from a swinging, energetic number such as jazz standard "Miss Jones" right into a smouldering indiscreet performance of "Fever" while barely missing a beat.

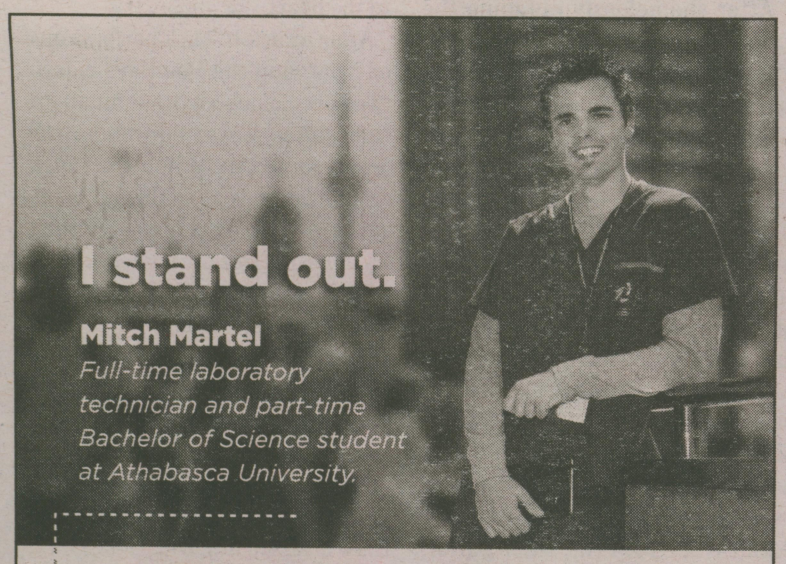
Bublé holds a genuine rapport with his fans. The show had no shortage of raunchy jokes and sly humour. After his band's introduction got a standing ovation, Bublé walked off the stage in mock disbelief.

"I've got it under control guys, Michael's overrated," the lead trombone player promptly declared, proceeding to centre stage to croon in a rather believable baritone. Bublé stalked back, wrenched the trombone away, and proceeded to upstage the player with it (though it was soon revealed that Bublé is only great at playing air-trombone).

Goofiness aside, Bublé gave himself over to the music with a brooding performance of "Feeling Good," followed by "Home." The projected stage visuals of Victoria and the coast were cheesy, though it hardly detracted from his performance. His rendition of "Everything" got the crowd up dancing, and instead of waving lighters, a sea of lit-up cellphone screens vied for personal close-ups.

Bublé has mastered his act. He croons with the band, makes love to the camera and channels Frankie and the Rat Pack, all the while relishing his control of the stage. He takes extended detours into the crowd for photos with kids. He hugs women (while being groped), and stays casual when frenzied girls surround him with camera phones.

Spectacular lighting highlighted many great moments, and while the act felt over-rehearsed at times, Bublé delivered solid entertainment for his audience.



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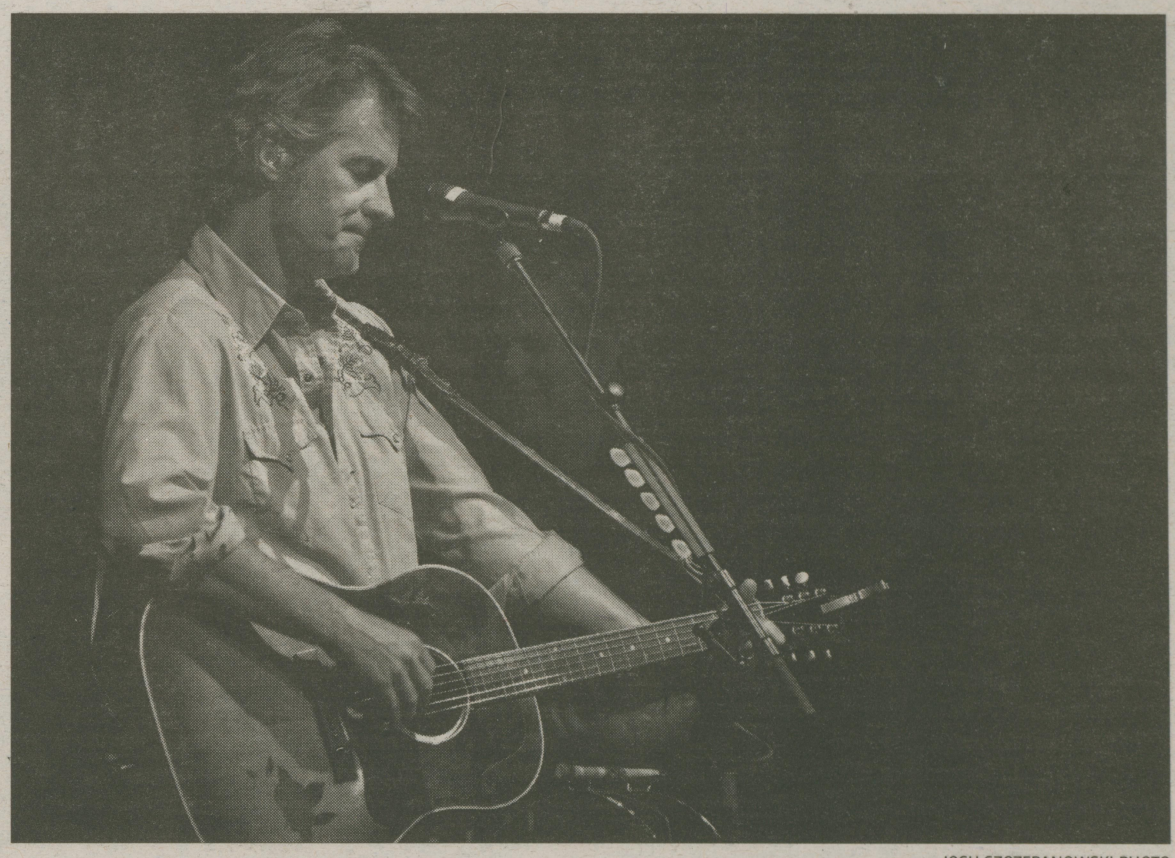

JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI PHOTO

Blue Rodeo's Jim Cuddy brings out the cowboy shirts at the Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre on Jan. 13.

Blue Rodeo concert a small countrified miracle

June Halliday

Leather, students, cowboy shirts, tight denim, pinstriped suits, jewel-encrusted Harley T-shirts and $7.50 beers with straws filled the Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre on Jan. 13 to see Blue Rodeo in all their studded glory at the Small Miracles concert.

It wasn't long before a mellow Sunday evening soon transformed into a rocking Friday-like night.

Introduced as "the pride of Nova Scotia," Luke Doucet and his trio, The White Falcon, took the stage first. Melissa McLelland (later introduced as Doucet's wife) provided haunting backup vocals and guitar. Rich Levesque played bass and Blue Rodeo drummer Glenn Milchem rocked the percussion as Doucet exclaimed, "We suffer from exploding drummer syndrome."

Doucet, suffused in the magenta light, wailed on his Gretsch White Falcon alongside his wife's acoustic. They made love to one another through their guitars, romance plucked through the strings.

"Broken One," a peppy heartbreak tune, proved to be the highlight song of the night. The band's harmonies were exceptional and the lyrics reverberant: "You've gotta have a heart to have a broken one."

> The energy of the near-full house erupted every few songs.

After shamelessly plugging the band members' new releases, Doucet proceeded to endorse bassist Rich Levesque's hot sauce. "I should sell furniture," Doucet said.

Then Blue Rodeo began their show, aptly bathed in blue light. The six-piece blue-jeaned band sunk close together at stage front as if inviting the audience into their living room. Cuddy (guitar, vocals, mandolin, harmonica) wore tapered Wranglers, and Greg Keelor (guitar, vocals) danced in bell-bottoms. Bazil Donovan lounged with his bass while Milchem returned to the stage with only a snare and brushes. Bob Egan ripped up the steel guitar, and Bob Packman exhilarated the keyboards and organ, launching himself off his stool several times during the jovial songs.

The energy of the near-full house erupted every few songs.

"You're worked up for some reason," Cuddy called out. The banter was sparse yet witty, and it became obvious that these talented instrumentalists are all about the music.

They mixed their extensive roster of hits with songs from their new album *Small Miracles*, including "Blue House," which defies categorization. The new album is a mixture of rock, country, blues, honky-tonk and roots — countrified and close to the heart.

After a back-to-back performance of "Try" and the Bee Gees classic "To Love Somebody" that hit all the right notes, it was no wonder the crowd joined in. When the black curtain fell, revealing the full band, acid green lighting and a rotating crystal backdrop, the audience went wild. They rocked up the show with "Til I Am Myself Again" followed by "Black Ribbon."

After the roar of clapping, the band returned for one final encore. Keelor let the audience begin "Hasn't Hit Me Yet" while glittery snow fell above a street light into the transfixed first row. Doucet and McLelland walked back to the stage, singing backup and solos.

"We'll see you down the road," Cuddy said, closing the show. And for a band that's been together since the mid-'80s, it's certain that they will.

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Philosophy café worth a ponder

What: Café Philosophy
Where: Solstice Café
When: Wed., 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
How much: $3 suggested donation

Jim Hill

It's rare to find a group of people interested in talking about philosophy who don't suffer from a least a few pretensions. That said, Café Philosophy is home to some surprisingly deep insights.

The group has, for the past 11 years, been facilitated by UVic lecturer Michael Picard, who keeps weekly discussions focussed. During last week's session, enlightenment and ignorance reared up as heated topics. Interesting outlooks were shared by many, but one comment from a Buddhist monk was especially radiating in its simplicity.

"Enlightenment," he said, "is not like the sudden revelation of flicking on a light switch, but allowing your eyes to slowly adjust to the dark."

The Solstice Café, with its comfortable, low lit atmosphere and tasty vegetarian and vegan food, serves a perfect setting for the group. Meetings are informal, and if you wish only to come and listen, you can. If, however, you feel brave enough to grab the mic, you will find the group more than willing to hear your ideas and dive into them at length.

One gets the feeling that those who go to Café Philosophy are genuinely interested in hearing new ideas and pursuing the idea of "truth." The group is vastly different from a classroom setting and, while headed by a lecturer, its informal nature treats those who dare to speak as peers. For anyone with even a minor interest in philosophy, it's certainly worth the trip.

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Dresses will fit almost all

27 Dresses
Twentieth Century Fox
In theatres Jan. 18, 2008

Lynda Pupo

Katherine Heigl balances at the top of her acting career (after mastering a character on Grey's Anatomy and her role in the summer comedy *Knocked Up*) with yet another film, *27 Dresses*, that is bound to prove her recent success is no fluke.

The film follows Jane (Heigl), a people-pleaser and hopeless romantic through her trials as the perfect bridesmaid — and only the bridesmaid (hence the title). But Kevin (James Marsden of *Enchanted* and *X-Men*) is a newspaper reporter who runs into Jane at one of the weddings he covers. While he chases the article of his dreams and Jane prepares to throw on her 28th dress, their magnetic paths cross and force revelations in these two characters.

Written by Aline Brosh McKenna, the film will not leave audiences irritated the same way her previous work, *The Devil Wears Prada*, may have done. Often a romantic comedy will leave the audience wanting to throw popcorn at the screen, but while the outcome of *27 Dresses* may be somewhat predictable, the detours along the way are inventive.

Surprising physical comedy appears when least expected, and feels natural and unrehearsed. The best friend, Casey (Judy Greer), whips out one-liners to keep the laughter coming, but she is also a solid and emotional character. The beautiful younger sister, Tess (Malin Akerman), is slightly less believable. Her blue eyes and bleached blond locks are supposed to shine next to Jane's light brown waves, but dying Heigl's hair doesn't make her any less attractive. And Akerman (who played a similar persona in *The Heartbreak Kid*) has the younger sister attitude down pat. But these aren't the only acting treats — keep your eyes open for familiar faces from *Knocked Up* and *The Office*.

Marsden's character, Kevin, is thankfully more developed as a male counterpart than in most comedies with a female lead. And just like *Knocked Up*, "his" world is shown frequently without "her" in it.

A wedding obsession is not required to enjoy this film. The surface may appear to be plagued with dresses, fittings, food and bouquets, but it's not about any of that. The story probes much deeper into something that everyone can relate to: can we be happy enough to accept our role in life? The difficultly of change and the importance of family, friendship and honesty are disguised in there as well.

McKenna's film makes a great topper to any feel-good day. It's as perfect for a romantic date as it is for a night out with a best friend. Just make sure you don't go alone, so that afterwards you can laugh about the many hilarious moments — or at least at one of the dresses.

Electronic duo riding high

Andrew Bishop

Ian Avery and Dan Beer of Victoria's dubTeT — an electronic dub duo that fuses live instrumentation with on-the-fly looping and dubbing — are excited for the increasing amount of exposure they have been gaining recently.

In the past few weeks they have signed for a steady Saturday night gig at Sanuk lounge, filmed TV spots with Shaw TV and Channel M, and made plans to for a summer tour to Montreal to play at Mutek, an electronic music festival.

Avery, the duo's multi-instrumentalist and dub programmer, said he is "just happy to be making steady money." The project is only now starting to gain momentum, despite teaming up with drummer Beer three years ago.

Avery said most of this exposure can be credited to their new promoter, Pippa Hirst of People Interacting with People Productions, who handles all aspects of the band's business affairs. He said having an external promoter allows them "more time to focus on their music" and on their day jobs as landscapers.

The duo's performance this Saturday at the über-trendy "asian-fusion" restaurant Sanuk was remarkable. Avery's specialty lies in the feat of music layering, which involves playing a melody (he switches between trumpet, keyboard, bass, guitar, banjo, melodica, cornet and trombone) and recording it, adding effects and echoes and recording increasingly complex melodies with different instruments on top of the first.

Beer's drumming and percussion is similarly polished, melding long lines of echoed dub and reggae into technically difficult Brazilian and flamenco rhythms. Defining their sound as "global dub," they cite their influences as ranging from modern experimentalists such as Burnt Friedman and Twilight Circus Dub Sound System to the great dub pioneers King Tubby and Lee "Scratch" Perry.

While completing a bachelor's degree at UVic in music performance and production, Avery, who sometimes performs under the name Fried Egghead, was turned on to dub music after hearing a King Tubby and Yabba You record in his third year and joined Beer's project Pacific Frontal System (PFS) shortly after.

Beer, after years of playing in punk and alternative bands, including Sun Dog Sun and Mexican Power Authority throughout the '80s and '90s, formed PFS in 1997 with bassist Chris Buck when Beer's attention turned to dub and electronic. PFS became a popular act in Victoria in the late '90s and the early part of this decade, and, for a long time, was one of Victoria's only musical groups focused solely on live electronic dub reggae.

When bandmate Chris Buck died tragically from a drug overdose in 2005, however, Avery and Beer decided to forge a new path as a duo. Since then, they have been honing their craft and learning about recording and production.

Asked what is in store for the future of dubTeT, Avery said their focus is on perfecting their live show. "Then we'll see what happens," he grinned.

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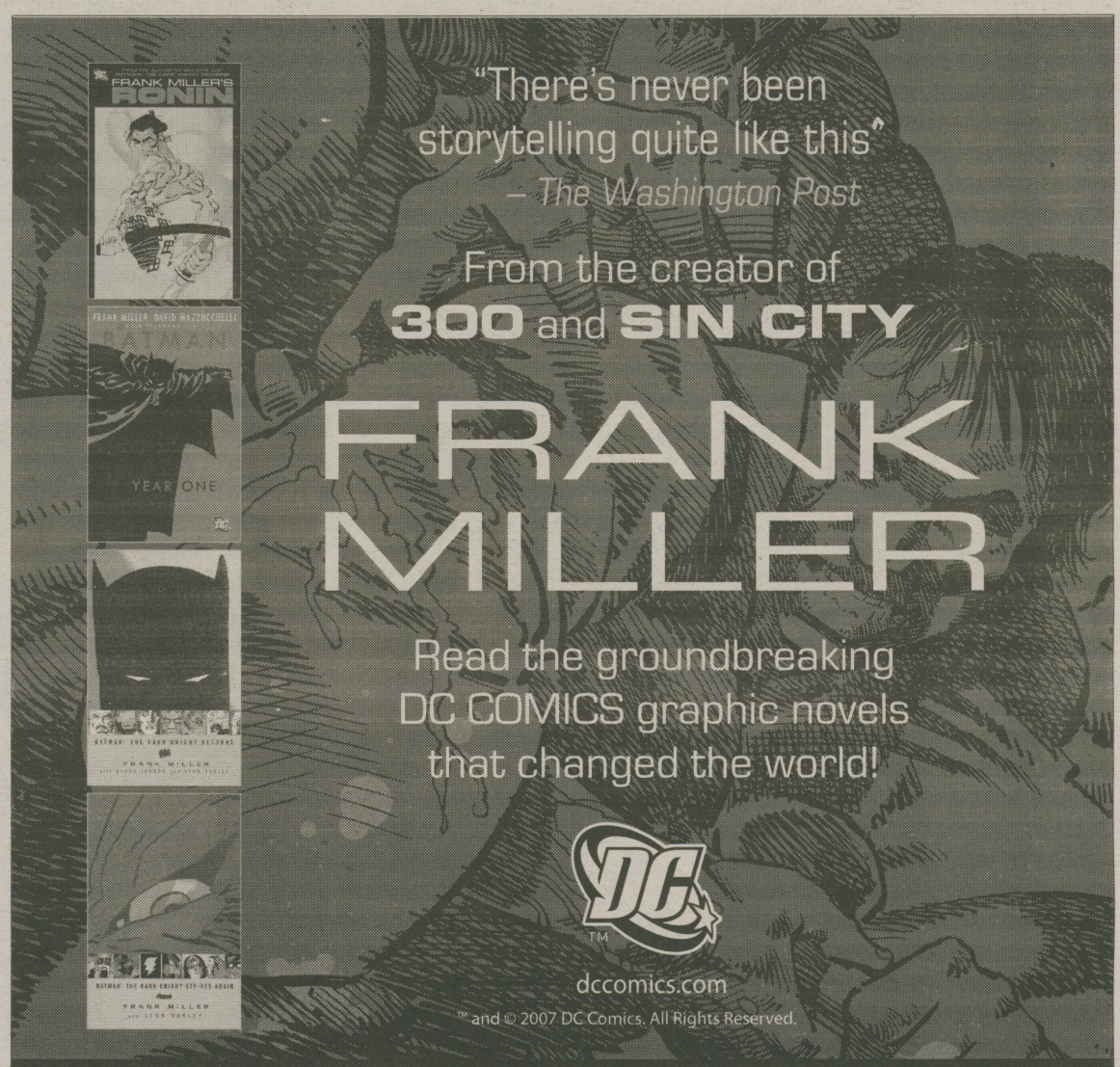

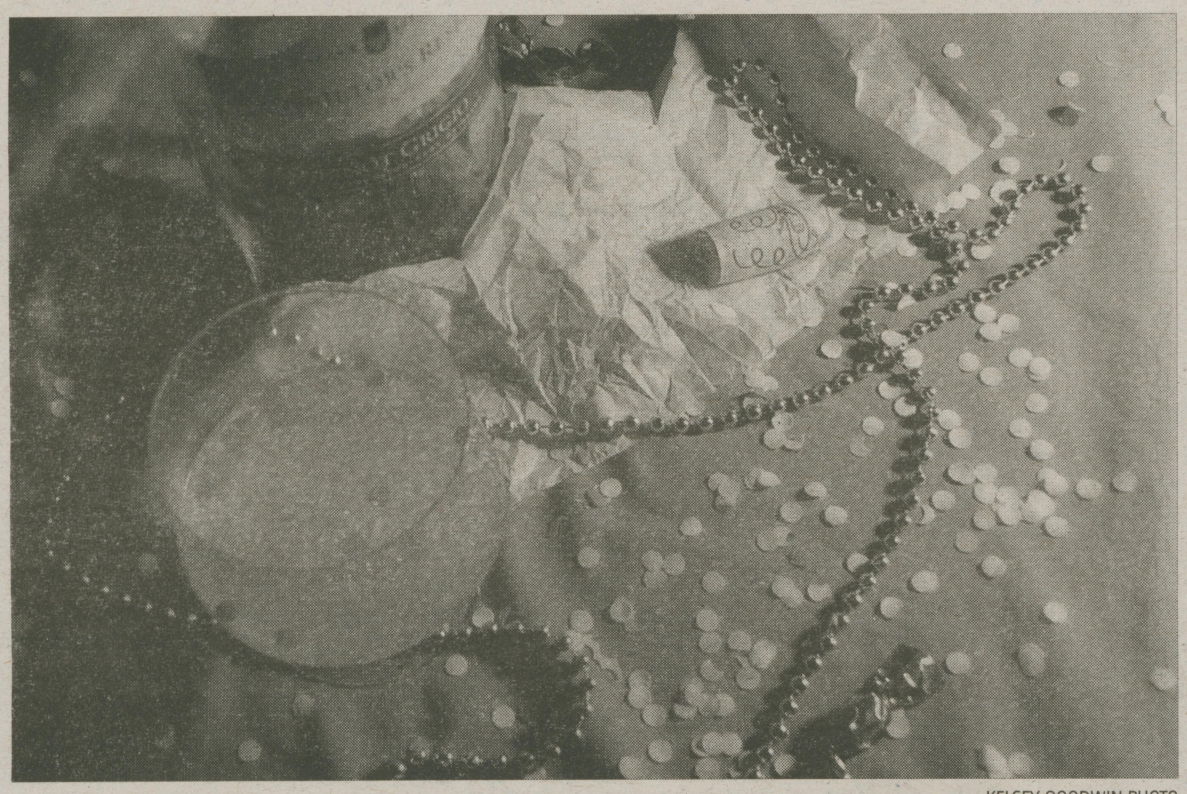

KELSEY GOODWIN PHOTO

Want your resolutions to last? Start small and work them into your everyday life.

Make resolutions stick

Lydia Adeli

Halfway into the first month of another new year, and already the resolutions are getting packed away with the holiday decorations. There's so much to accomplish, and failure lurks in the air.

But resolutions don't have to be doomed. With the right mindset, even a late start can be a good one.

A quick survey by the Martlet found the most popular new year's resolutions for UVic students were, predictably, to obtain a healthy lifestyle and to strive for academic success.

When it comes to academics, UVic Counselling Services has some helpful advice for reaching your goals. Here are five simple steps to pull up those grades:

1. Organize and manage your time. While many students have agendas and calendars, it's important to actually use them. You can avoid procrastination by focusing on one task at a time. Counselling Services also recommends adopting the philosophy of treating each school day like a work day. Make the most of breaks between classes and you'll have more free time at the end of the day.

2. Engage in your course material. One essential task in studying is being an active learner. That means summarizing instead of memorizing. Try to constantly apply your knowledge, and you'll find it sticks (most exams are made to test how well you can do this). And don't forget there's power in numbers: study groups are always great.

3. Keep a balanced lifestyle. Physical activity is linked to better success academically. It might sound repetitive, but exercising and eating nutritiously as well as having a regular sleep schedule is vital.

4. Get help if you need it. There are loads of resources available at UVic. Whether you need emotional and stress-related support, writing help, academic advising, or career guidance, there are facilities to aid you. And don't forget that your profs have office hours for a reason. Ask for help sooner rather than later — don't let stress build.

5. Don't cut yourself off. It might sound surprising, but socializing with family and friends can actually help your studying — companionship is a proven stress-buster. Just don't fall into using this as a procrastination tool.

It's important to be realistic when trying to achieve resolutions. You can't expect to change overnight, and having too-high expectations that fail can be just as discouraging as having no goals at all.

Commit to your resolution. Find ways to build it into your everyday routine. Be precise about how you want to change, and chances are you'll find yourself doing it. If you want to become a better runner, steadily increase your running time every day by one minute. If you want to eat healthier, eat one orange in place of that cookie.

If you fail to work on your goal that day, that week, that month, or even half the year, don't lose hope. The importance of a resolution is never really the goal itself — it's about creating a better quality of life overall. It's never too late to start.

ASK MISS MARTLET

Sore throat cures in your kitchen

Danielle Pope

Dear Miss Martlet:

I have two "burning" questions: what will fix the pain from scorching my mouth with a hot drink, and what is the sure-fire cure for a sore throat?

- Ouch

Dear Ouch,

There are few things that seem to rival the pain of a budding sore throat or a scalded tongue. And while there may be gobs of creams, serums and lozenges that claim to dull those aches and stings, the answer may be no further than your kitchen cupboard.

Got a little eager with that boiling tea? Soothe a burnt tongue with a spoonful of sugar. That's right, an entire tablespoon of straight sugar right into your mouth. OK, so this probably isn't something you've fantasized about since you were five, but not only will it take away that numb, thick feeling, it will rejuvenate your tastebuds too — of course, that could just be all the sugar rushing to your head. Just remember the key is not to swallow, but to let the granules soak in.

Can't stomach the thought of sucking on all that sweetness? Try corn syrup instead. The mixture is already melted down, dulling that sugary flavour. Plus, the smooth syrup will soothe your aching tongue.

Why this works remains a mystery, but the results take skin from feeling volatile to healed. Another interesting sugar cure: mix a teaspoon with a few drops of olive oil, rub into your hands, then rinse. Your winter-worn hands will be as smooth as the day you were born — almost.

For a sore throat, try a little cayenne pepper. According to EarthClinic.com, a mix of cayenne pepper and water reduces inflammation as well as pain in a sore throat within a matter of hours, sometimes even minutes. The basic recipe is:

1 cup of warm to hot water

1 teaspoon of cayenne powder (substitute chilli pepper if cayenne isn't available)

Pinch of salt, or a drop of lemon and honey (optional)

Gargle mouthfuls of the warm mixture every 15 minutes until the pain resides. Be patient — it will reside.

To remove that hot feeling left in your mouth from the pepper, rinse with water or milk or suck on a piece of bread without swallowing. Depending on your spice tolerance, you might prefer to use spray bottles to squirt the mixture down your throat and avoid the mouth entirely.

Of course, any ailment that lasts longer than a few days should be checked out by your physician. But for all those backyard cure-alls, now you've got another trick to add to the old medicine pocket.

Try these remedies out the next time you feel that twinge. You just might be surprised.

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Got a question? Let Miss Martlet do the investigating. Send queries to missmartlet@martlet.ca.

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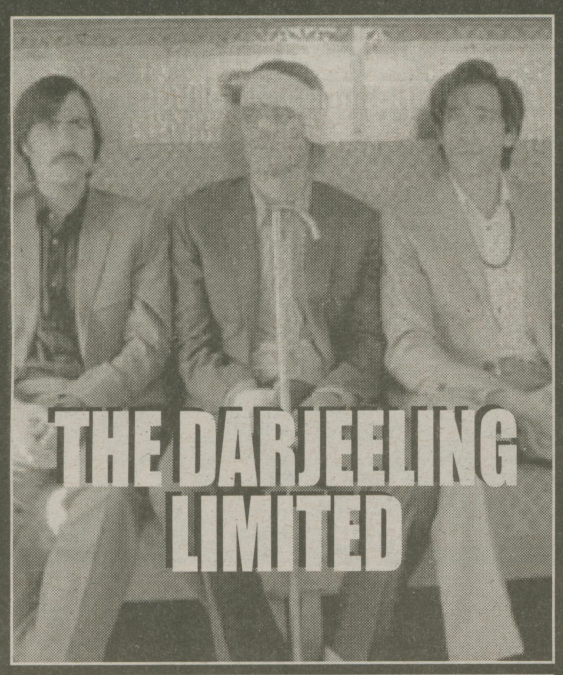

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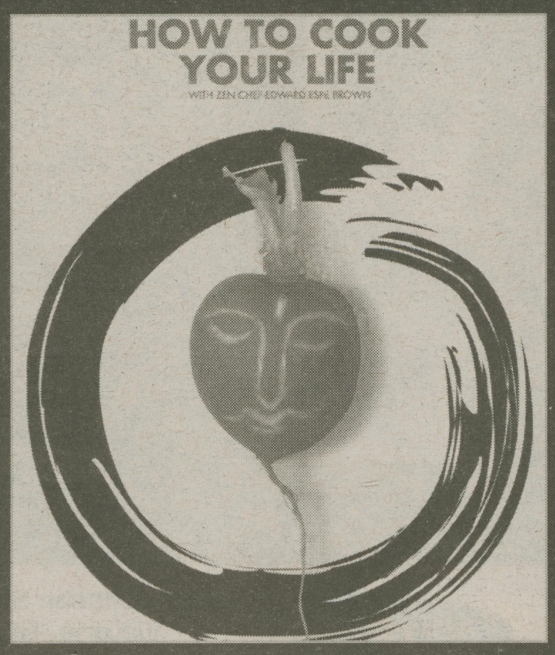

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Vikes still undefeated on home court

Max Sussman

The UVic Vikes remain perfect in home conference play after beating the Regina Cougars and Brandon Bobcats on Jan. 11 and 12.

Mitch Gudgeon led the way when the Vikes defeated the Cougars 72-57 on Jan. 11. The fourth-year forward got a double-double with 18 points and 14 rebounds. Fifth-year forward Rob Kinnear had a career-high night, netting 16 points.

As usual, the Vikes relied on the top-ranked defence in Canada West to hold the Cougars to 57 points, well below Regina's average of 78.5 points per game. In the first quarter, the Vikes defence forced 10 turnovers. UVic jumped out to an early 19-4 lead behind sniper-like shooting from Kinnear and rookie Ryan MacKinnon. The Vikes finished the first quarter up 26-11 and never looked back.

"In the first quarter, we were probably as good as we've been on both sides of the ball," said Vikes coach Craig Beaucamp.

First-year guard MacKinnon started his 14th game of the season and scored 13 points to go along with three assists and three steals. MacKinnon, who hails from Comox, was nominated for Sport B.C. Male High School Athlete of the Year for his senior season at Highland Secondary on Jan. 10. He proved worthy of the honour by shooting 60 per cent from beyond the three-point line against the Cougars.

The Vikes were able to essentially coast after their dynamic first quarter, and Regina never got within 11. The Cougars cut the lead to 28-16 early in the second quarter, but Beaucamp called a time out.

Out of the stoppage, the Vikes were able to extend their lead to 19. A similar situation saw Cougar forward Jayes Tarka throw down a dunk that cut the margin to 58-47 to start the fourth quarter. Again, Beaucamp called a time out and the Vikes emerged from the break to go on a 7-0 run.

UVic combated the Cougars zone defence by making Kinnear the focal point of their offence. The Vikes ran the ball through him at the high post and the top of the key, and the six-foot-eight Saanichton native responded with three assists.

"He's got hands and good vision for a big man," said Beaucamp. "Robbie's one of our better passing posts."

Regina came into the game with a 38 per cent team three-pointer record but went 2-16 against a Vikes defence that contested nearly every shot. Jeff Lukomski, usually a leading scorer for the Cougars, was held scoreless and missed all six of his three-point attempts.

Despite the impressive defensive efforts from the Vikes, the play of the night was a thunderous one-handed dunk by fourth-year UVic forward Tyler Hass. He finished the game with 11 points and two steals.

SHERMAN PAU PHOTO

Vikes forward Tyler Hass powers down the court in a game against the Regina Cougars on Jan. 11.

On Jan. 12, UVic fought their way back from a 11-point deficit to trump the Brandon Bobcats 65-60. Hass had yet another fantastic game, scoring 23 points in total.

The wins were important ones for the Vikes, giving them a 12-4 record on the season and moving them into a tie with UBC for first place in the Pacific Division. UBC currently boasts a 12-3 record.

The tie will be broken on Jan. 18 when the Vikes host UBC in a Pacific Division showdown at the McKinnon Gym.

- with files from Gemma Karstens-Smith

VIKES SCOREBOARD

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Jan. 11 Vikes 79 Regina 58
Jan. 12 Vikes 66 Brandon 37

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Jan. 11 Vikes 72 Regina 57
Jan. 12 Vikes 65 Brandon 60

UPCOMING GAMES

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Vikes vs. UBC
McKinnon Gym
Jan. 18 @ 6 p.m.

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Vikes vs. UBC
McKinnon Gym
Jan. 18 @8 p.m.

MEN'S FIELD HOCKEY
Vikes vs. UBC
Field Hockey Pitch
Jan. 20 @ 1:30 p.m.

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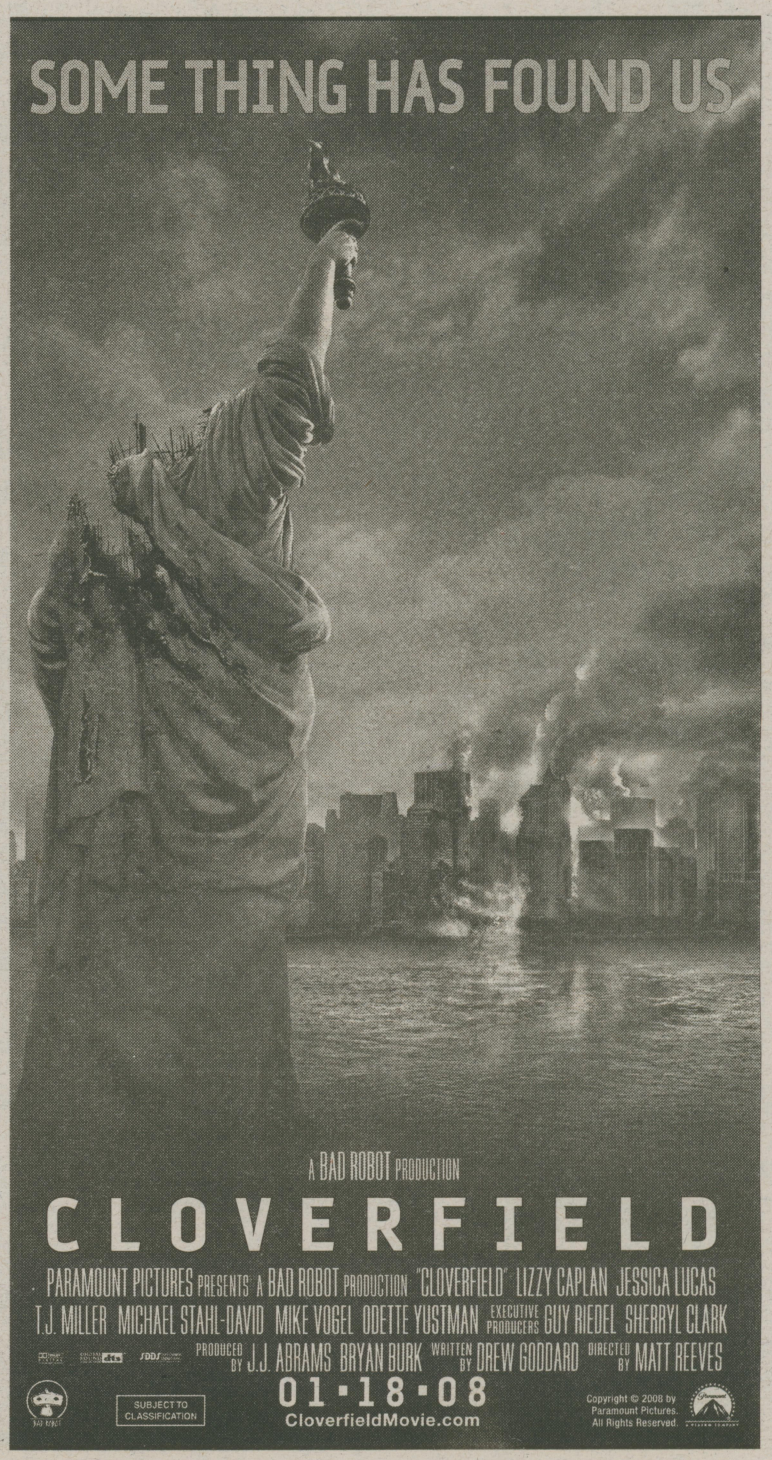

Should women's ski jumping be in Olympics?

No, the sport hasn't met the requirements

Nathan Lowther

Should women be allowed to ski jump in the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver? No. And it has nothing to do with discrimination.

In our age of political correctness, if a white, heterosexual male can do something, everyone else must be allowed to do it too, or else it's automatically labelled as discrimination. But beyond gender, there are actually rules to becoming an Olympic sport and women's ski jumping hasn't met the requirements.

"The IOC [International Olympic Committee] would like to stress again the decision not to include women's ski jumping has been taken purely on technical merit," Emmanuelle Moreau, the IOC's media relations manager was quoted as saying in an SI.com article.

"With too few athletes competing in this event, and no world championships until one year before the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Games, women's ski jumping does not reach the necessary technical criteria and as such does not yet warrant a place alongside other Olympic events."

The IOC requires a sport to hold two world championships before becoming an Olympic event. The IOC charter also restricts adding sports within four years of the Games. With women's ski jumping holding their first world championship in 2009, it's a double whammy.

To call that discrimination is ridiculous. Ski jumping is one of only two sports that are male-only events. That's not perfect, but it's pretty good for an organization practising such "discrimination." And women's ski jumping will likely be in the 2014 Winter Games, after holding at least two world championships.

To take this to the Canadian Human Rights Commission, as the mother of one Canadian ski jumper did, borders on disgusting. There has to be something more important than ski jumping for them to be dealing with.

> Instead of crying discrimination, we should look at what the IOC has done for women's sport.

Could the IOC break their rules and permit the women to jump in 2010? Yes, and they have before.

The women's marathon was added to the 1984 Summer Games in Los Angeles after only one world championship. And there are women snowboarding events with less global participation than ski jumping. So yes, the IOC has broken their rules. But the 1984 Olympic Games were politically charged with Cold War tensions, and snowboarding events attract a younger audience.

Neither of these scenarios apply to women's ski jumping. So instead of crying discrimination, we should look at what the IOC has done for women's sport.

Women will eventually get to jump in the Olympic Games. But first they have to meet the requirements. After all, isn't applying the rules equally the definition of equality?

Yes, it's time for gender equality in sports

Gemma Karstens-Smith

Men have competed in Olympic ski jumping since 1924. But the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has adamantly refused to add women's ski jumping to the list of sports included in the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver.

Ski jumping is the only winter Olympic sport that still excludes women, and that needs to change. Athletes should be allowed to compete in the highest level of their sport regardless of their gender, and ski jumping is no different.

One reason the IOC has given for not allowing women's ski jumping is that they don't see it as being popular enough. But there is no way that there would be this much uproar over the ban if the sport weren't popular. And wouldn't having women's ski jumping included in the games, and therefore watched by millions of people around the world, greatly increase its popularity?

Another reason the IOC has cited for the ban is a rule that a sport must have held at least two world championships before being included. The first world championship for women's ski jumping will take place in 2009. But athletes have been campaigning for years to have female athletes included in the ski jumping world championships. In 2006, the International Ski Federation finally said that women would be able to compete in 2009. Female athletes shouldn't be penalized for the ski federation dragging their feet.

Even if the IOC were to make women's ski jumping an event at the 2010 Olympics it wouldn't be the first time that they would be breaking their own rules. At the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles, the women's marathon was included after only one world championship. What makes women's ski jumping different?

There are a group of Canadian female ski jumpers who are so upset with the ban that they launched a human rights complaint early in 2007. They wanted the backing of the federal government, which they received earlier this month as a result of the case.

And the government should be backing the women. A huge part of the Canadian national identity is based on equality, whether it be based on gender, race, language, whatever. We're hosting one of the biggest sporting events in the world in 2010, so it's inevitable that our country will be in the spotlight over the next couple of years. Supporting women ski jumpers shows the world that we really are committed to equality.

Being the host country could also put us in a position to create change. It's about time — women have been left out long enough.

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David Karp

If you're thinking about what to do your next research paper on, you may want to consider an unlikely topic — sports. The athletic world is studied by scientists, psychologists, economists, sociologists and lawyers. Here's some of the neatest sports research that the Martlet has found recently.

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Damn those refs

If you think the ref is rooting for the home team, you're probably right.

A study in December's Journal of Sport Sciences examining six seasons of Football Association (FA) Cup data found that refs overwhelmingly favoured the home soccer team. The host squad received 1,157 first yellow cards, while the visitors received 2,622 — more than twice as many.

The British researchers found that crowd size played an important factor in referee decisions. As crowd size increased, referees were less likely to yellow card home players. The authors suggested the crowd's noise may influence the decision.

"It may be the absence of crowd noise when a member of the home team fouls a member of the away team that indicates to the referee that no serious offence has been committed," the study said.

The researchers also suggested that referees may simply be trying to please the home fans. However, this effect was less noticeable in games with the largest crowds.

"This may have reflected the later rounds of cup competition and the corresponding growth of support for both teams, with the crowds becoming more balanced, and/or the appointment of referees of a higher standard to officiate at these fixtures," the authors speculated.

And while the difference in yellow cards could be a result of players behaving more violently on the road, the authors don't think that's the case.

"In general, home and away players demonstrate similar levels of aggression," the study claimed.

Happy fat people like to work out

With all its endorphins, we know that exercise is likely to make people happier. But does being happier, mean that you are more likely to exercise?

The answer is yes, according to a study in December's Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology. Researchers found if you get up on the wrong side of the bed, you'll be more reluctant to exercise later in the day.

"On days when a participant reported a more negative morning mood, he or she was less likely to exercise," the study of 51 obese adults found.

Researchers speculated the reasons why happy people were more likely to exercise may include goals seeming more attractive, increased energy, and the anticipation of feeling good.

However, the researchers also found that once people start exercising, their initial mood has no impact on how intense their workout is, or even how long it lasted.

Eliminating Native mascots

The Cleveland Indians. The Chicago Blackhawks. The Washington Redskins. There are many examples of Native American mascots in sports, and they're controversial.

A case study of campaigns to eliminate 14 Native American college mascots in November's Journal of Sport and Social Issues identified factors which help activists eliminate them.

Having a large number of supporters is key, the study found, particularly if many of the activists are Native Americans. But the study says that you should recruit them by word of mouth.

"Perhaps the information and perspectives required to fully understand the problems with Native American mascots is so different from information and perspectives available in dominant discourse that more extensive conversations are necessary," the study speculated. "Or, perhaps mobilizing people to take such an unpopular stand requires one-on-one nudging. Or, perhaps most non-Natives, who have little substantial contact with Native Americans, need to have personal conversations with Native opponents to develop enough empathy to move them to join the opponents."

The study found that when university administrators back the mascots, the mascots usually stick around. However, when alumni are the primary backers of mascots, the team name often gets tossed out the window, perhaps because alumni are not as well organized.

Hazing breeds hate

Contrary to popular belief, hazing doesn't create a more united team according to a recent study published in the December edition of the Journal of Sport Behavior.

Four American researchers surveyed 167 college athletes about their experiences with hazing and its affects on the team's cohesion.

"The more appropriate team building behaviors that athletes were involved in, the more socially cohesive they perceived their team to be," the report said. "The results of this study suggest that the argument that hazing builds team cohesion is flawed. Hazing is associated with less, not more, team cohesion."

The authors suggested two possible reasons for this. First, hazing is like an additional cost of membership, but "without a commensurate increase in benefits." That's because athletes who are hazed are already on the team. Second, the "hazees" could resent the hazers.

"Because the embarrassment, effort and pain are inflicted by the senior team members, the most likely outcome is reduced attraction to those individuals, and consequently, to the team as a whole."

Colleges not ready for terrorism

Colleges in the United States are ill-prepared to respond to terrorism threats, a study in the most recent Journal of Legal Aspects of Sport has found.

The survey of 68 schools found that while 87 per cent of NCAA Division I football stadium managers had an emergency action plan to deal with terrorism, only one quarter had actually practiced their response. And many stadium staff members weren't familiar with how to respond to a terrorist threat.

"The results suggested that some stadiums were lacking in staff training related to terrorism," the report said.

"Designated security personnel and non-security personnel should be adequately trained in recognizing potential terrorism threats and how to respond to such threats."

But most colleges were vigilant in monitoring terrorist threats. Four-fifths of schools monitor for the possibility of a terrorist attack, while half of the stadiums adjust their security levels in response to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's colour-coded threat levels.

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*This is also the deadline to opt your family in for an additional fee. You can only opt in, in person at the UVSS Info Booth.

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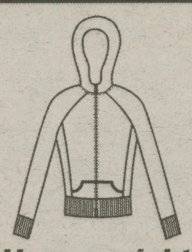
EXTENDED HOURS FOR JANUARY
Mon - Fri 9 am – 4 pm
Saturdays 12 noon – 4 pm

Students billed in Sept. cannot opt out in Jan.

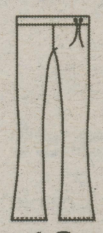
A Service of the UVic Students' Society

Womens Fitnesswear



Heavyweight Scuba Hoody

Dupont Supplex Racerback Tank



Dupont Supplex Yoga Pants or Capris

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Events

UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17

Antidote at Silk Road Tea
7:00 - 8:30pm.
Silk Road Aromatherapy & Tea Co., 1624 Government Street

Start the new year off with a workshop devoted to renewal. Find out how to create a wellness program for yourself by combining the slimming and digestive benefits of tea with the power of therapeutic baths and self massage.

To register drop in 7 days a week and pay by cash, visa, mastercard or debit card. For more information, visit our website at http://www.silkroadtea.com.

Fee: $15.00 per person
Info: (250) 704-2688
silkroad@silkroadtea.com

CARHA Pacific Cup Hockey Tournament
Rinks throughout Victoria.
A record 140 teams from all over North America will descend on Victoria for this exciting tournament. Tournament runs from Jan 17-Jan20. Visit our website at www.sporthostvictoria.com for more information.

Info: (250) 386-0070
Email: info@sporthostvictoria.com
shamrock@pacificcoast.net

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18

Music - Faculty Recital
8:00 - 10:00 pm
MacLaurin B125

The program will include the music of Yukiko Isomura, Donald Swann, John Stevens and Canadian composer Raymond Luedeke. The featured work will be Epitaph VI: Phoenix Rising (Coventry/Dresden) by Martin Ellerby featuring the entire euphonium and tuba class of the School of Music, conducted by Eugene Dowling.

Fee: $15 & $11
Info: Jill Michalski 721-7904
michalsk@uvic.ca

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

Victoria Idol
7:00pm
Alix Goolden Hall, 907 Pandora Avenue

We're now down to 12 finalists. Come down and watch these amazing individuals perform on Jan 19.

Tickets will be available at all Thrifty Foods. Doors open at 6pm.

Fee: $12
Info: info@victoriaidol.com

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

Conference - World Religion Day
2:00 - 4:00 pm
Student Union Michèle Pujol

Dr. Todd Khozein will speak on the subject of "The Essential Unity of All Religions," sponsored by the Campus Association for Bahá'í Studies in honour of World Religion Day. Born in Iran, raised in Ecuador and educated in Canada and the United States, Todd Khozein has lived and traveled around the globe extensively, acquiring a deep love and respect for the inherent value of all cultures. After earning a Bachelor's in Economics he went on to earn his MD at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine. Todd currently dedicates his efforts to help play his small part in the unfoldment of a world which must come to the understanding that humanity is one.

Fee: Free admission.
Info: Sheila Flood
721-8338
sheilaflood@gmail.com

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

Lecture/Seminar - Sessions in Spirituality: Acting on Rumours
3:30 - 5:00 pm
Interfaith Chapel

Continual barrages of bad news about "wars and rumours of war" give little reason for hope or action. Yet peace and justice activists are busier than ever. Catherine Morris will speak about the spiritual foundation of her increasing activism over the past two decades, including what she hopes to accomplish and why.

Fee: Free
Info: Henri Lock
721-8338
hlock@uvic.ca

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

Library Workshop: Find Articles using JSTOR
12:30 - 1:00 pm
McPherson Library 080

JSTOR is a popular database because its scholarly journal coverage goes back decades; however, did you know that JSTOR only indexes about 250 journal titles? Did you know that many of the most recent journal articles are not available? Regardless, JSTOR is a fantastic resource for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

This workshop will help you to:
* Learn to use advanced search features
* Browse for articles in your subject area
* Understand the limitations of searching in JSTOR

Drop-ins are welcome, space permitting.

Fee: Free
Info: Pia Russell
liblearn@uvic.ca

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

Lecture/Seminar - Ethical Issues in Reproductive Technology
5:45 - 8:00 pm
Harry Hickman Building HHB 110

Dr. Eike Kluge (UVic's acclaimed Biomedical Ethics professor) will present on Ethical Issues in Reproductive Technology: From genetic screening to sex selection, and from cloning to artificial placentas. Dr. Kluge is a wonderfully engaging and stimulating speaker who is well known and respected in the UVic community. Pizza is available by donation. This event is one of a series of three seminars organized by the Health Sciences Student's Association and The Interprofessional Education Project.

Fee: Free
Info: Lara Dahle
LDahle@uvic.ca

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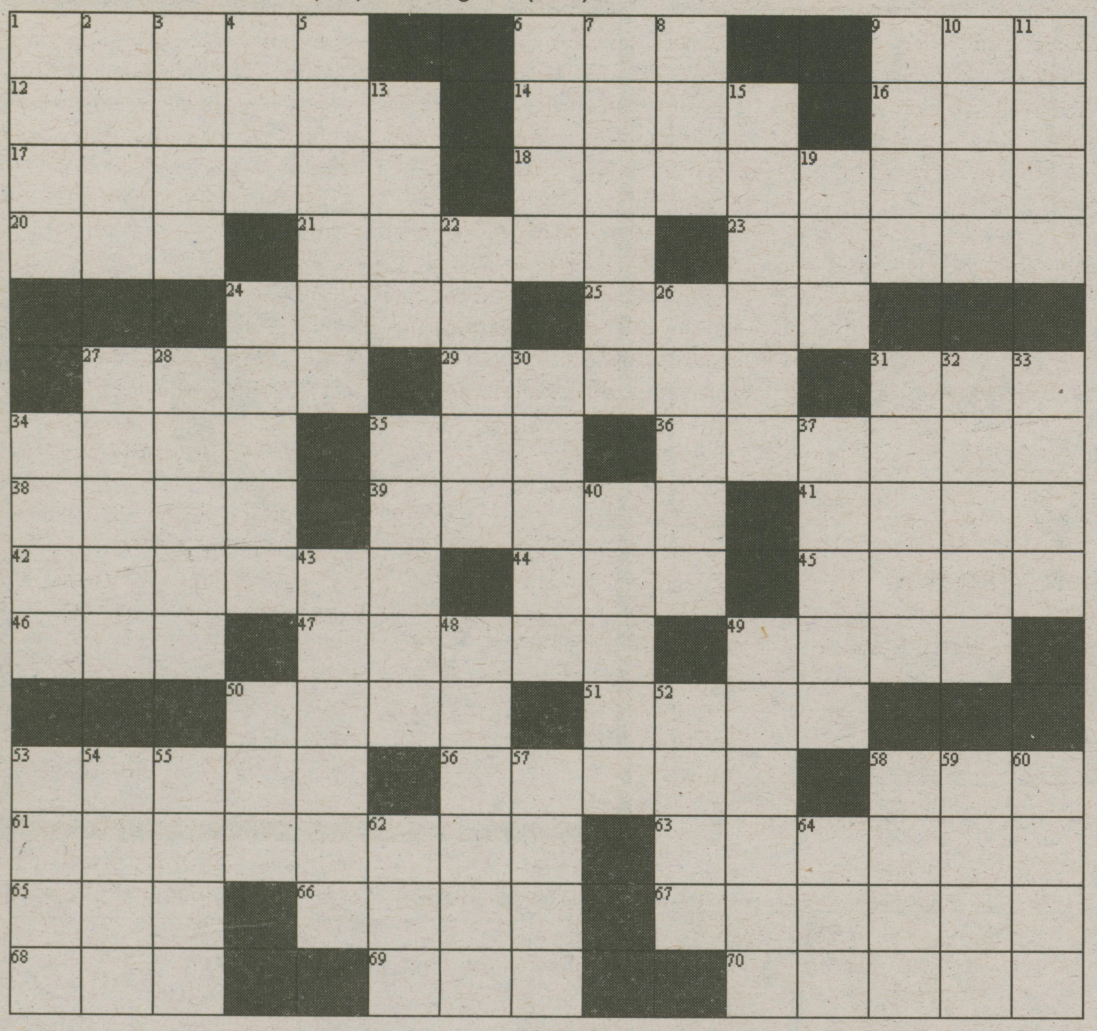
To submit an event, please email: promo@martlet.ca by Monday

The Ontarion Crossword by Krystian Imgrum (CUP)



ACROSS

1 Literary barterer
6 Popular contraction
9 ___ job
12 Attack
14 Lunar tide
16 Police acronym
17 Wigwam
18 Audacity
20 Wax producer
21 Automaton
23 Desert features
24 Ball's partner
25 Cheese type
27 Square set
29 Odyssey villain
31 Cleo's killer
34 Oasis rival
35 Phanerozoic, for ex.
36 Unchanging
38 Call
39 Cracker meal
41 Hilarious happening
42 Penetrates
44 Negative retorts
45 Brink
46 Aliens (abbr.)
47 Sculled
49 Eleven constituents
50 Asian sauce
51 Barry Humphries character
53 Foundation
56 Travel needs
58 Mineral spring
61 Guitar type
63 Henry VIII order
65 Tape: abbr.
66 Lucid
67 Pariah's mark
68 New York ball player
69 Unify
70 Throe

DOWN

1 Divine will
2 On the water
3 Addict
4 Emotive one
5 Like a stratigrapher's sample
6 Division word
7 Wobble
8 He played it again
9 Norse god
10 Adore (with on)
11 Light cycles
13 Some born in July
15 Meticulous one
19 Pirate's drink
22 Plains roamers
24 Funeral hymn
26 Office features
27 Reflection word
28 Weaklings
30 Foolish
31 Tolerate
32 Trudges
33 Actor Sellers, to friends
34 A desperate housewife
35 Emerson output
37 Colosseum
40 Cryptic writings
43 Perches
48 Valley
49 Beginnings
50 Canine command
52 Smidgens
53 Raised mound
54 Sheltered
55 Denomination
57 Murdered, to the Corleones
58 Genesis maker
59 Actress Grier, et al.
60 Michelangelo subject
62 Unprocessed
64 Cool

solution, tips and computer programs at www.sudoku.com

su|do|ku
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		3	8					
4			5	1				3
							1	2
				5			9	
	8	5				4	2	
	2			9				
1	6							
2				3	9			6
					4	5		

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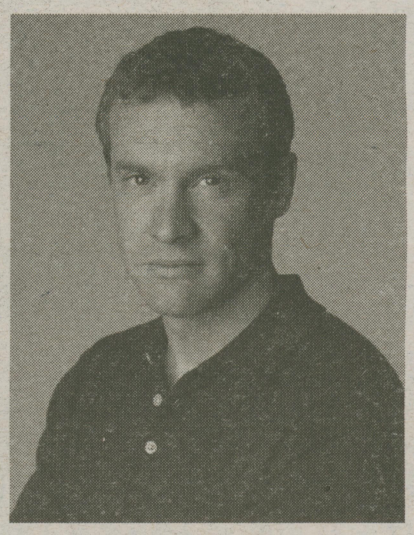
For puzzle answers or to cheat and impress your friends, visit our website.

LOOK-ALIKES

David Turpin, UVic President and vice-chancellor



Tate Donovan, who played Jimmy Cooper on *The OC*

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TOP TEN

FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 8, 2007

1. KATE RUSBY
   Awkward Annie (Pure)
2. COBBLESTONE JAZZ*
   23 Seconds (K7)
3. PAPER CRANES*+
   Halcyon Days (Independent)
4. VARIOUS*+
   All Your Ears Can Hear (AYECH)
5. ELBOW BEACH SURF CLUB*
   Billy Club EP (Burnt Oak)
6. HOLY FUCK*
   LP (Young Turks)
7. OUTLAW SOCIAL*+
   Dry Bones (Independent)
8. VARIOUS
   I'm Not There (Columbia-Sony)
9. RADIOHEAD
   In Rainbows (Independent))
10. SHOTGUN JIMMIE*
    The Onlys (Delorean)

* Canadian artist † local artist

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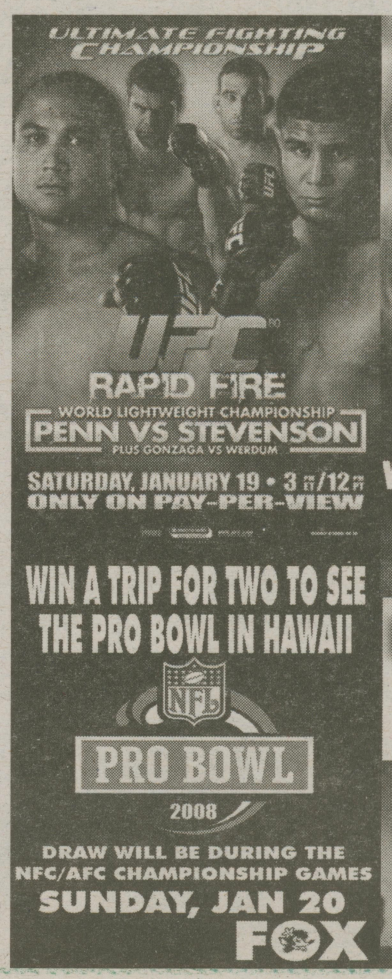
Hear the weekly top ten on Charts and Graphs every Thursday at 4:00 PM on CFUV 101.9FM.

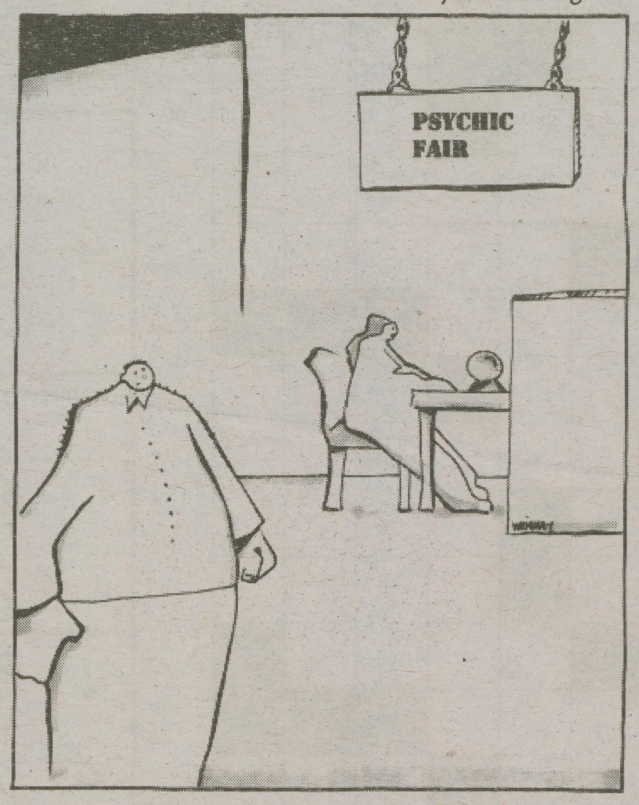


Comics

NOOSEHEAD

DAVE

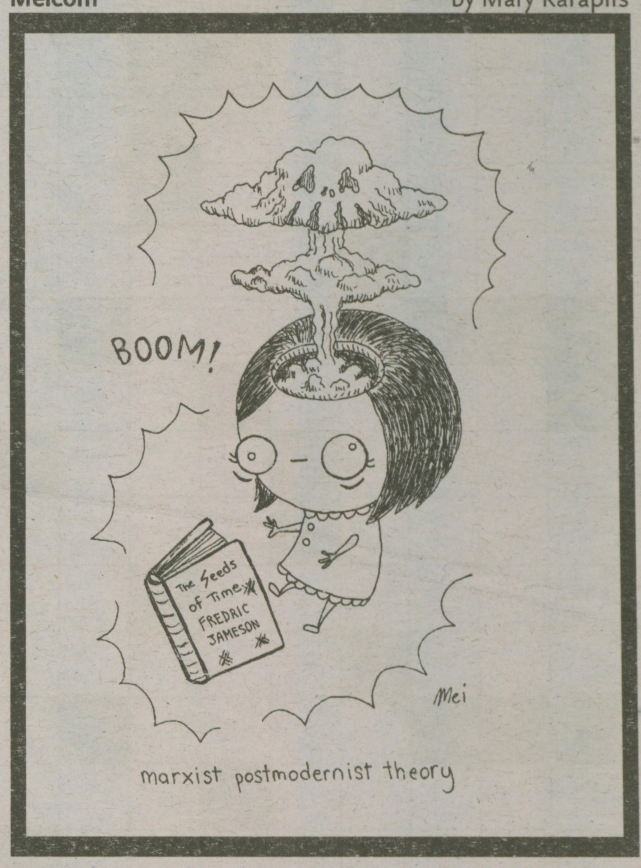
by David Weigham



Dave always knew when the psychic fair was in town

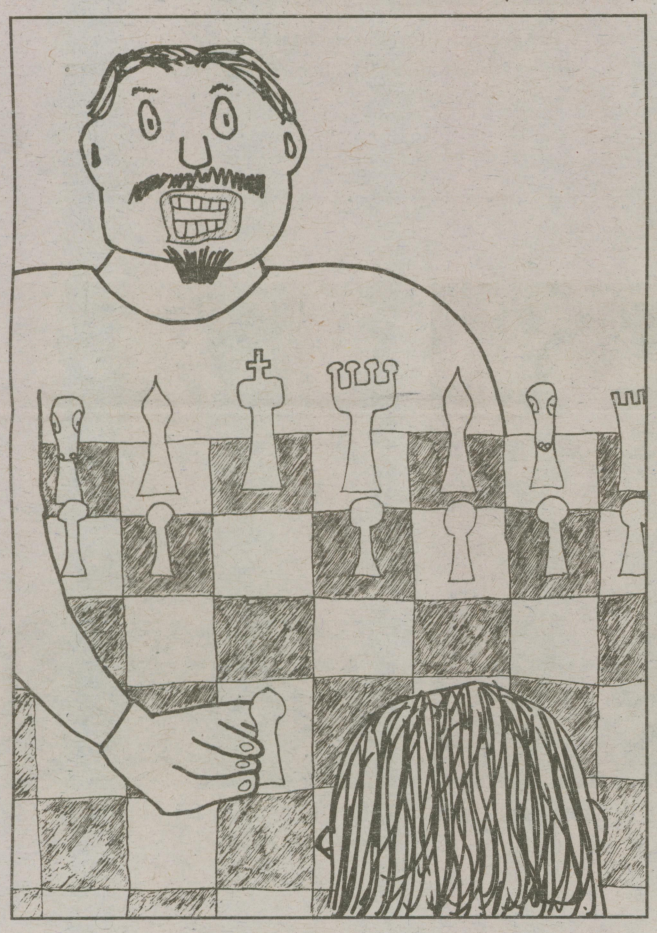
Meicom

by Mary Karaplis



DATING A CHESS MASTER

by David Karp



"I want to mate you."

hyperblender

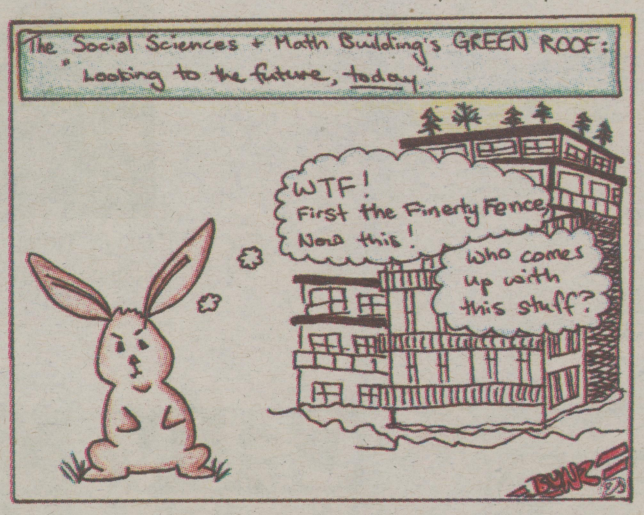
by e.b. jones & Jameson Rafter

Toilet Humour

by Eamonn O'Connell

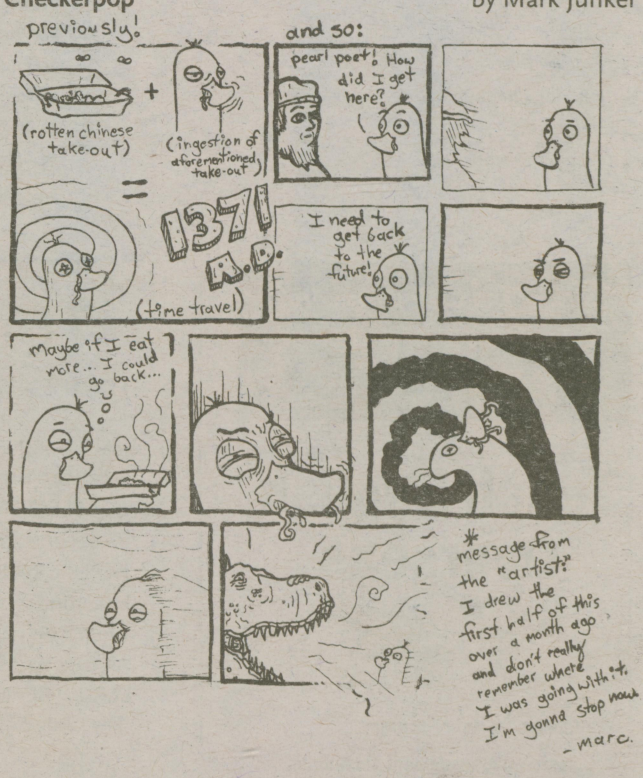
Bunz

by Ellie Stephenson



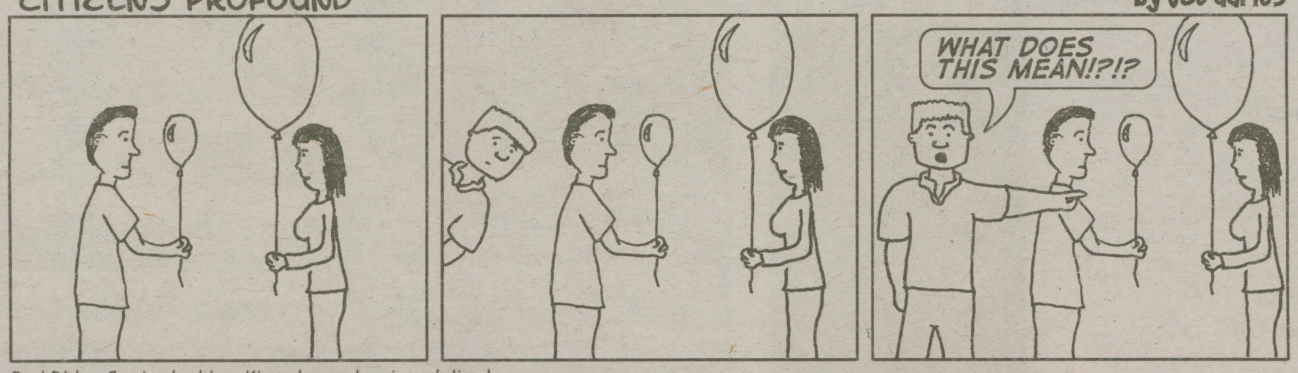
Checkerpop

by Mark Junker

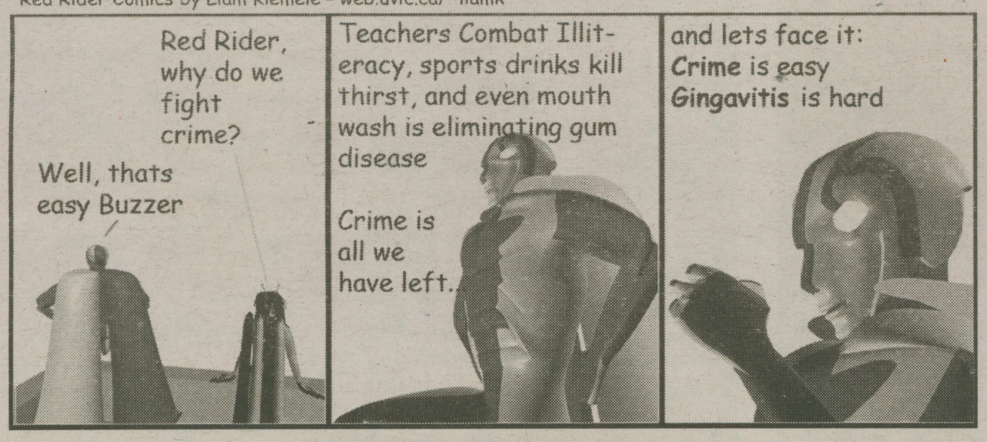


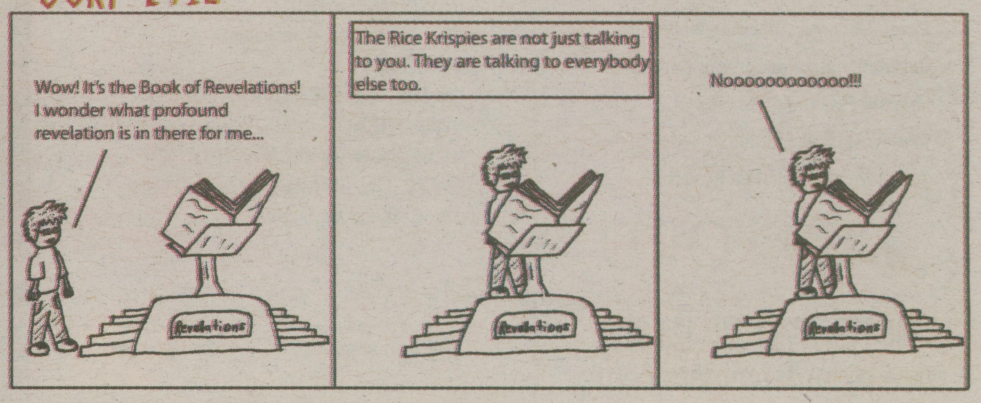
CITIZENS PROFOUND

by Joe darius



Red Rider Comics by Liam Kiemele - web.uvic.ca/~liamk



CORP EvIL

by Gord Duff